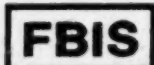


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Latin America Report

No. 2359



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27 August 1981

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2359

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RICH NATIONS MUST PRACTICE ENERGY BELT-TIGHTENING

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish May 81 p 3

[Article by Jose Bodes Gomez: "Tighten the Belt"]

[Text] The experts say they have more data at their disposal today than ever before with respect to energy matters, but at the same time they are compelled to admit that the future in the area of energy is plagued by a number of unknown quantities.

A few years ago, immediately following the initial rise in petroleum prices, there were predictions that this fuel was about to be exhausted, and the more pessimistic of these forecasters predicted a major energy crisis within the near future.

It is true that the world's supply of petroleum, coal and natural gas--which are the fuels most used today throughout the world--is finite, but as of today the known reserves of these fuels are sufficient to last through the first half of the 21st century.

The "unknown quantity" with respect to how long these reserves will last depends fundamentally on the rate of their consumption, and the importance of this question lies in the fact that the model of economic development applied during the present century has been based on utilization of these reserves to the point of actually squandering them.

Projections made by various research centers in the West shed very little light on the future, inasmuch as their calculations for the year 2000 range between 70 billion barrels (at a high rate of consumption) and 47 billion barrels (at the lowest rate of consumption).

Commenting on these projections, one Latin American expert asserted that in reality they "tell us nothing," however sound the research behind them, because the highest figure is 50 percent above the lowest, representing a margin of variation that is impossible to manage in the process of elaborating development plans.

Nor are the experts completely in agreement as to what steps to take in future decades to cope with the energy problem.

Confidence in scientific and technical progress induces one at times to believe that large-scale exploitation of solar energy as an energy source is near at hand.

Something similar is occurring with respect to the heat of the earth (geothermal energy) and the motive power of the oceans, although encouraging progress has been made in connection with these sources as well.

Nevertheless, as two Indian scientists--A. Ramachandra and J. Gururaja--warned recently, "for the majority of the developing countries, all this is somewhat lost in the mist of the future, if not in the mist of dreams."

In the face of these extreme positions--between those who forecast a total energy crisis within the next few decades and those who believe that everything can be solved by recourse to the new sources of energy--the view is gaining favor that both approaches should be combined within the immediate future.

That is to say, the restrained use of the finite resources combined with surveys of possible reserves as yet unknown, together with efforts to master--and lower the cost of--other sources of energy that are renewable.

Boris M. Berkovski, director of the UNESCO programs relating to scientific and technical problems in the energy field, regards it as possible that "our children's great-grandchildren will live in a world that is without petroleum problems and natural gas problems.

"We must therefore," he continues, "concentrate henceforth on developing methods of producing artificial petroleum and gas, and above all, on discovering processes that will assure us of unlimited and ecologically clean energy sources."

The experts such as Berkovski are aware that many years will pass before the new sources--and more specifically solar energy--can satisfy to any appreciable extent the needs of the human race.

Meanwhile, the problems that today confront the underdeveloped countries make it necessary that--among other measures--these countries be ensured an adequate (and increasing) supply of petroleum, in order to get their basic industries under way and improve the living conditions of the people.

There is "another energy crisis," as the ECLA experts call it--a crisis caused by the very low levels of energy consumption. The underprivileged populations--principally the rural populations--use firewood and charcoal to cook their food and to supply heat on winter nights. This consumption represents no less than one-fourth of all the primary energy consumed in Latin America.

For these men and women of our region, the increase in gasoline prices and the cost of operating electric ranges are irrelevant topics in the midst of their anguished struggle for survival. The firewood and charcoal they carry away, however, is also intensifying the deforestation of large areas of Latin America, whose soils tend to become arid amid a hungry world.

On the other side of the consumer problem are the opulent societies. The United States, Japan, Federal Germany and scarcely more than a dozen other developed capitalist countries are currently devouring 60 percent of all the energy produced in the world, whereas their population is only 20 percent of the world's total.

"The rich must tighten their belts, because the poor cannot even afford a belt," Minister Jose Andres Oteyza of Mexico declared at a meeting held recently in his country to elaborate the position that the Latin American governments will take to the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Energy Sources scheduled to be held next August in Nairobi, Kenya.

Rarely will the scientists and politicians ever have to unite their efforts and their sleepless hours to achieve success as they will at this conference. For this will be, in the final analysis, the first step toward a new era of energy.

10992

CSC: 3010/1563

OIL CONSUMPTION DOWN, GASOLINE UP IN FIRST QUARTER

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 24 Jul 81 p 3

[Text] KINGSTON, Jamaica, Thursday, (CANA) — Jamaica's energy conservation efforts paid off in the first three months of this year with a 3.5 per cent drop in oil consumption here.

But the Ministry of Mining and Energy, which released the figures said the 1981 first quarter petrol consumption was up on last years.

According to the Ministry's monthly bulletin, Energy News, 346 449 barrels of gasoline were used between January and March against 338 075 barrels for the corresponding period in 1980.

The overall situation for energy conservation however remained positive, as total amount of petroleum used during the review period was 1 833 286 barrels, compared to 1 900 286 barrels in the first three months of last year.

It added, however: "Despite the net reduction, it is difficult to avoid the disturbing conclusion that motorists may have lost a little of their enthusiasm for conserving gasoline, resulting at least in part, in the increase consumption of gasoline."

"It is a fact that the oil glut on the international scene has

removed some of the pressure from the oil importing countries, and has even caused a downward trend in international oil prices. This does not, however, provide sufficient reason for complacency locally, since our domestic energy bill amounted to J \$455.940 million (one J'ca dollar equal 56 cents US).

This bill was for approximately 7.7 million barrels of oil, and does not include the petroleum in the high energy using bauxite-alumina industry.

If the bauxite-alumina industry was taken into account the energy bill would be well over the J \$700 million mark, but payments for energy for the industry is not outlaid from Jamaica.

The cost of petroleum to Jamaica in 1980 was approximately 32.3 per cent of the total import bill, compared to nine per cent in 1972, the year before the start of the phenomenal increases in petroleum price.

Since 1979 an energy conservation programme has been in here, and over the past two years 10 per cent targets for reduction in use have been set.

In the 1979-80 fiscal year the achievement was 7.2 per cent, and the performance was bet-

tered in 1980-81, when the reduction over the previous year was 9.3 per cent.

The saving last year, caused in part because of reduction in productive capacity in a declining economy, was US \$78 million.

The government's energy programme does not call for any decrease in consumption this year. In fact consumption is expected to rise by a modest five per cent because of a forecast rise in industrial activity as a spinoff of an economic turnaround.

Noted mining and energy report: "In this period when great emphasis is being placed on economic recovery and growth, it follows that any upswing in energy consumption should be directly related to economic expansion."

It pointed out that conservation in itself could not be the long-term solution to Jamaica's energy problem, but was part of the process to be backed up by alternative energy programmes.

Jamaica has an elaborate long-term energy policy which envisages that alternative programmes could reduce the current 97 per cent dependence of imported oil for energy needs to 64 per cent by 1990.

SEA WATER ENERGY PLANT PLANNED WITH EUROPEAN FUNDS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 29 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] A (US)\$70 million experimental plant to produce electricity by using the temperature difference between different layers of sea water, may be put into operation in Jamaica shortly.

Prime Minister Edward Seaga, said yesterday that the financing of the plant has already been identified from a European source, and if present studies prove feasible construction could start in the near future.

Mr. Seaga said three sites which were potentially suitable, had already been identified, and that the process, known in technological language as Ocean Thermal Exchange Conversion, was only a part of a wider alternative energy programme. The programme, estimated to cost (US) \$1,500 million could add over 250 megawatts of new power-generating capacity by 1990. He challenged the symposium and the UN meeting to be held in Kenya next month to consider financing of such programmes in small third world countries like Jamaica. Jamaica would need an additional 131 megawatts of generating capacity by 1990, representing about 36 per cent of the total need by then. The expectation was that this would be provided from non-oil fuels.

He said conversion from oil to coal was expected to account for about 70 megawatts, if studies being undertaken through the US Agency for International Development prove that the move is feasible. The results were expected later this year, and the first converted plant should be operational by 1986.

With regard to power generation using peat as a fuel, Mr. Seaga said that about 60 megawatts could be provided from this source. However a firm decision must await the results of engineering and environmental studies.

The Prime Minister said that hydropower generation was expected to provide 33 megawatts by 1985 and 55 megawatts by the year 2000, primarily through the Blue Mountain scheme, which would also significantly add to the usable water resources of the country.

This, he said, was a very expensive programme which could cost about (US \$530 million, and if undertaken, would constitute the most expensive single project ever in the history of the island.

In the area of energy from urban waste, Mr. Seaga said garbage and sewage could be used to generate about 24 megawatts of power by 1990. Present indications are that this would be a feasible programme. Other areas of interest, were energy from biomass in which nine digesters were now being planned: wood and charcoal, wind, and thermal.

Regarding exploration for oil, Mr. Seaga said that (US)\$23.8 million was being spent on on-shore operations, and \$53.3 million on off-shore drilling. The first wells are to be sunk during this year.

If all these programmes can be put into effect, Jamaica should be producing 50 per cent of its energy needs from extra-oil sources by 1990, the Prime Minister said.

CSO: 3025/186

PROJECTIONS SHOW NATURAL GAS AHEAD OF OIL BY 1990

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 24 Jul 81 p 1

[Article by John Babb]

[Text]

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO has \$246 billion worth of oil and natural gas reserves, but it's in the ground. And according to projections, natural gas may outstrip oil production by 1990.

On the basis of known reserves and reasonable drilling programmes, it will be difficult to maintain the present level of crude oil production — 214,000 barrels per day — says Mr. Elliott Bastien, of the National Energy Corporation (NEC).

However, the natural gas reserves, on the other hand, reveal a very rosy picture. "Our proven reserves of gas are adequate to the year 2004," he added.

This time estimate takes in consumption by all energy-based industries, including the proposed aluminum smelter, on which no investment decision has yet been taken, but excluding the liquefied natural gas (LNG) project.

Excluding the LNG, he said, there would be a 12 per cent surplus, or almost one trillion cubic feet — a surplus which was inadequate to support an LNG project.

Mr. Bastien was one of four NEC officials, who, explained the position of "Trinidad and Tobago in the World of Energy" yesterday, to a team of media personnel at the second NEC-sponsored information session, held at the Hilton.

Others were Dr. Ken Julien, chairman, who spoke on steel, Mr. Basharat Ali, urea and methanol, and Mr. Malcolm Jones, ammonia and fertiliser.

REASONABLE BREATHING SPELL

While pointing out the declining trend in oil production Mr. Bastien also noted that the trend in international prices for oil indicated that revenue from it would stabilise at about the 1980 figure — (TT) \$4 billion — until 1984.

As such, he added, Trinidad and Tobago, had a reasonable breathing spell of four to five years to develop revenues, other than those from oil.

Natural gas, he emphasised, was the only other significant and commercially exploitable natural resource capable of generating revenues of the required magnitude.

He also explained that although local petroleum resources and their exploitation dwarfed the rest of the economy, by world standards they were small.

Crude oil reserves in 1980 — 700 million barrels — represented a mere one-tenth of one per cent of the world's total of 642 billion barrels, while natural gas, at 14 trillion cubic feet (tcf), was half per cent of total world reserves — 2,573 tcf in 1980.

Domestic energy consumption, he also revealed, was only three per cent, but warned that this could change with the increasing level of affluence in the society. Our transport

sector consumption was 19 per cent; consumption of natural gas as feedstock was 17 per cent, while 63 per cent of energy use was concentrated in the industrial sector.

Speaking of ammonia, Mr. Jones said there were two companies producing ammonia at present — the foreign-owned Federation Chemicals (Fedchem), and Tringen, with a third, Fertrin, about to start production soon.

AMONG WORLD LEADERS

Total production from the Fedchem and Tringen plants, which now amounted to 600,000 metric tons per year, would be increased to more than 1.2 million metric tons per year when the Fertrin plant came on stream.

This production capacity, he said, placed Trinidad and Tobago among the leading 20 world producers of ammonia and the top ten exporters of ammonia.

The favourable supply-demand relationship for ammonia and the presence of substantial quantities of natural gas in Trinidad and Tobago, he explained, provided, in a nutshell, the rationale for the country's entry in the world trade of ammonia.

Much of what was being produced was finding its way on the U.S. market, but Mr. Jones said NEC would also seek to activate markets in Latin America and Western Europe.

In relation to urea, Mr. Basharat Ali said Trinidad and Tobago was geographically well located to take advantage, in respect of freight, over many other producers in serving the Caribbean, Central and South America, as well as the US market.

Preliminary plans for disposal of the product, when the plant came on stream, showed about 30 per cent going into the US market, with the balance being disposed in the rest of the region.

Looking towards 1990, when Trinidad and Tobago's urea would be a well-established product, said Mr. Ali, a market of almost three million metric tons should still be available for the country's production.

LONG TRACK RECORD

By mid-1984, he said, the country would have entered the world of methanol, the manufacturing process of which was similar to that for ammonia production, in which the country already had a long track record.

Even before the construction of the plant, he said 60 per cent of the methanol output of 360,000 metric tons per year,

was already committed in firm "take or pay" agreements, for terms varying between seven and ten years.

He said it was NEC's deliberate policy not to make any further long-term commitments at this stage, since it needed flexibility to either pursue the most advantageous markets, price-wise, or to develop possible downstream facilities.

Dr. Julien, in a brief rundown on steel, explained that there were 12 to 20 different types of steel which required the building of different plants, so when one was speaking of 'steel in trouble' they had to specify which steel.

The steel plants that were closing were those producing steel plates, or flat steel, used in the motor-car and shipbuilding industries.

Steel's major competitors, he said, were aluminum and plastics, both of which Trinidad and Tobago was capable of producing.

He said Government chose the production of direct reduction iron (DRI) and wire rods, because of the wide range of items that could be produced from both and the availability of markets for such products.

CSC: 3025/186

NATIONAL MOVEMENT MEMBER RAPS VENEZUELA'S LAND CLAIM

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] Barbados' support for Guyana in that country's dispute over a territorial claim by Venezuela was lauded yesterday by the Caribbean National Movement, a grouping of intellectuals and progressive persons.

One member of the Movement, Dominican Rosie Douglas told a news conference here yesterday that Barbados was one of the few Caribbean Governments to take an unequivocal position in the matter, and he appealed to other Caribbean Governments to follow the lead set by Barbados.

He said that as long ago as 1975, the late Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister, Dr. Eric Williams in an address to a special convention of his ruling Peoples National Movement (PNM) had warned the Caribbean of the threat posed by Venezuela.

Mr. Douglas said Dr. Williams had warned that the very independence which the region had fought so hard for was being threatened by the South American Republic, and urged Caribbean leaders to unite for the purpose of defending their nationhood.

He said that unfortunately most of the Caribbean leaders did not take Dr. Williams seriously with the result that today Venezuela had intensified its claims to two-thirds of Guyanese territory, increased its militancy against Trinidad and Tobago fishermen operating in the Gulf of Paria which separates Trinidad from Venezuela and had grabbed Bird Island from Dominica.

He charged that as a result of Venezuela's expansionist behaviour, the country was now suggesting that the Caribbean Sea be renamed "Venezuela Sea".

"In addition they were now in negotiations with the Government of Holland saying that Curacao and Aruba were in Venezuela's territorial waters and therefore any attempt to give the two islands independence should be discussed with Venezuela", Mr. Douglas remarked.

He noted that while there has been a problem between Venezuela and neighbouring Colombia over a disputed territory in the Lake Maracaibo region, "they (Venezuelans) were saying that on no account were they prepared to fight a war with Colombia".

Mr. Douglas said that the Caribbean National Movement was now whipping up support for a three-day conference to be held possibly in St. Lucia during the month of September to discuss Venezuela's behaviour, and it was enlisting the support of all Caribbean Governments organisations, and other groups.

He accused Venezuela of wanting to control the Caribbean for military, economic, strategic, and racist reasons, while adding that the Government in Caracas had condoned terrorist activities through the acquitting of three men accused with the blowing up of a Cubana aircraft five years ago.

He said Venezuela was basing its claim to the island on an outdated document, the papal bull which in the colonial era mandated that all lands visited by conquerers belonged to Spain.

He charged that what Venezuela was doing now "was to erect military fortifications under the sea to be able to say that the island had been colonised by them".
[as published]

"That is why we have decided to issue a call to the entire region, Governments and non-Government organisations, social organisations and mass movements to deal with the question of Caribbean nationalism, independence, and territorial integrity and national sovereignty", he added.

CSO: 3025/187

LABOR CONGRESS SEES WAGE FREEZES BRINGING AREA UNREST

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

The Caribbean Congress of Labour has predicted further labour unrest in the region, if governments follow the policy of imposing restrictions on pay increases, as is now being considered by the Dominica Government.

Dominica is seeking a EC \$37 million loan from the International Monetary Fund, (IMF) and one of the conditions laid down by the IMF, is that the Government implement a wage freeze within the public service, limiting wage increases to 10 per cent over the next three years.

Secretary treasurer of the CCL, Mr. Burns Bonadie, said that the freeze restricted the operations of the trade union, and he pointed out, that in both the case of Guyana and Jamaica, where such measures had been taken, it had invoked a climate of labour unrest.

Mr. Bonadie said that it is almost certain that other countries seeking IMF loans would be asked to follow suit, and the CCL anticipated labour

unrest wherever the restrictions were implemented.

Another disturbing trend the CCL secretary treasurer said, was the establishment of industrial courts to deal with labour disputes in several countries in the region. This he said further hindered the trade union, since it meant that labour disputes were often sent to tribunals instead of the bargaining table.

Mr. Bonadie cited the prevailing situation in Jamaica, where such a court had been appointed to deal with a dispute involving bauxite workers, and said that the CCL had written to the Jamaica Government expressing concern about the way it had been handled.

The CCL is due to have a meeting of its affiliates in September here in Barbados, and the question of anti trade union legislation, and the political and economic climate in the region, are high on the agenda.

CSO: 3025/187

BRITAIN DISSATISFIED WITH MOST AREA BANANA EXPORTS

Threat to Economy

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 26 Jul 81 p 4

[Text]

ROSEAU, Dominica, July 20, (CANA): DOMINICA'S FRUIT industry has run into serious quality problems as British housewives, who are among the biggest buyers, question the assertion "a banana is a banana, is a banana." The big British firm, Geest Industries Limited, which buys the bulk of bananas from Dominica and three other Windward Islands, has started complaining about the erratic quality of the exported fruit. The situation here and elsewhere in the Windwards has raised fears about Britain continuing to give the islands — including St. Vincent, St. Lucia and Grenada — preferential treatment for their fruit exports. This in turn has raised fears of a sharp decline in the millions of dollars in hard cash that annually flow into this island — indeed the region — bolstering the agriculture-oriented economy.

Managing Director of Geest International, Ray Hilbourne, recently told Dominican and other Caribbean Banana Producers: "it is very difficult for the British government to maintain protective measures for the Caribbean fruit if the Caribbean fruit is not what the British housewife wants."

The Caribbean's hold on the traditional British market has been weakened by the high quality of fruit from other exporters especially central America. These producers have made significant inroads in 1979 and 1980, when hurricanes left a trail of disaster in the Caribbean's agricultural sector.

Premature harvesting of bananas and an outbreak of leafspot disease have been listed among the major problems facing the industry here. Standards were also inconsistent.

"The trader can open one box and its a good one, open another its half-good, half-bad, open another its not good at all," Hilbourne said. "No industry can survive unless it deals with those problems."

Hilbourne, who visited boxing plants here and in

the other Windward Islands, said he was appalled at the manner in which the fruit was being prepared for shipping overseas.

"Basically, it is one of the many unfortunate practices when you think we are in a modern banana industry and you still see fruits in heaps at the side of the road, sometimes without protection, open to the sun," he remarked. "Those bananas could never be good at the marketplace, where you see leaf-spot-infested fruit can get through to the marketplace."

"There is scale fruit, there is scarred fruit, and there is fruit which ripens on the way over."

He added: "What we started doing in 1952 is no longer good enough for 1981. Somehow, we've got to meet that challenge."

The opposition leftist Dominica Liberation Movement Alliance (DLMA) has said that Hilbourne was telling the country "with the usual British courtesy" that it was about to lose protection on the British market.

Premium for St Vincent

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 26 Jul 81 p 4

[Text]

KINGSTOWN,
St. Vincent,
July 21. (CANA):
St. Vincent's reputation
for producing the best
quality bananas in the
Windward islands has
been rewarded with a
price increase while other
islands have been
announcing reductions.
News of the special pre-
mium price increase of
nine pounds sterling per
ton for fruit sold on the
United Kingdom market
has come from the St.
Vincent Banana Growers
Association.
Executive Secretary Cut-
hbert Williams described
it as a welcome devel-
opment attributable to
the superior quality of St.
Vincent fruit, local agron-
omic efforts and general
operational control.
Mr. Williams said that offi-
cials of Geest West Indies
industries, which markets
Windward islands

bananas in Britain, have
commended local author-
ities for their efforts to
improve methods in the
industry.

Recently Geest warned
that deteriorating quality
of Windward islands fruit
was severely hampering
the banana trade and
warned that there needed
to be improvement if the
industry was to survive.

Dominica announced two
price reductions last week
and warned its farmers
that further reductions
were necessary.

The St. Vincent premium
payment is part of an
effort to give incentives as
part of the quality
improvement drive.

Mr. Williams reiterated a
call to farmers, truckers
and boxing plant workers
not to relax their efforts
and ensure that St. Vin-
cent continues to receive
the special premium
price.

CSO: 3025/187

BRIEFS

REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER--Plans are on the drawing board for the establishment of a Caribbean Appropriate Technology Centre (CATC) to serve the islands of the Eastern Caribbean. The Centre which will be sponsored by the Christian Action for Development in the Caribbean (CADEC), will design, construct, prepare specifications for, and run field tests on projects employing appropriate technology. The two-phase project is being spearheaded by Grenadian-born Mr. Conrad Mason. A six-month planning phase which is now underway, ends on November 15, at which time implementation begins. Mr. Mason, who has been named co-ordinator of the project, will visit Antigua, St. Kitts, Montserrat, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and Grenada during the planning phase to coordinate the scheme with appropriate technology groups in those islands, and set up "think tanks." One important aspect of the Centre's work will be the development and operation of a Documentation Centre, which will collect information on appropriate technology, and make it available wherever it is needed in the region. Funds totalling U.S.\$96 000 have been made available to CADEC by two international organizations for the initial two-year duration of the project. Further funds will be sought from other organizations such as the Caribbean Development Bank, which have special funds available for funding of such projects. CATC will be sited in one of the regional countries it serves, most likely Barbados. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 23 Jul 81 p 1]

SWEDISH LOAN TO CDB--Bridgetown, Barbados, July 29 (CANA): The Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the government of Sweden today signed a contribution agreement under which Sweden made available five million (US) dollars to the bank's special development fund. Speaking at the signing ceremony at the bank's headquarters, CDB president, William Demas, termed the agreement "an important breakthrough", and appealed to other developed countries to emulate the example set by Sweden. "Apart from a smaller contribution from New Zealand in 1976, this contribution is the first offered to the CDB's special development fund by a non-member country on an interest free, non-reimbursible basis without undue restriction on procurement", Demas noted. The agreement is of particular significance to the bank because of recent efforts to obtain additional financing on very concessional terms to meet the needs of the countries of the Caribbean region, especially the lesser developed ones, he said. Signing on behalf of the Swedish government was Hans Blix, Under-Secretary of State, Office of International Development Co-operation in the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Blix stated that Sweden considered it a moral duty to assist developing countries. He said the agreement was in keeping with the country's attitude towards the north-south dialogue.

SPEECH FROM THRONE OPENS NEW SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

Highlights of Speech

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 22 Jul 81 p 1

[Article by Jewel Brathwaite]

[Text] The Barbados Government anticipates that there will be a sharp drop in the growth rate in the island's economy over the next two years.

So said Governor-General Sir Deighton Ward while delivering the Throne Speech at yesterday's official opening of Parliament.

Sir Deighton said the slowdown from five per cent last year is expected to reach no more than two per cent in the next two years or so.

He added that in the interest of ensuring the long-term resilience of the economy, "Government will find it necessary to institute measures to restrain consumption and to moderate wage increases over that period."

The Head of State noted that the Barbados economy had managed to perform at a high level over the past three years despite general difficulties in the world economy, and it consistently recorded growth rates which exceeded targets and inflation was kept within what he called tolerable limits.

"However, it must be recognised that, in the short term, the performance of the economy will be affected adversely by the continuing difficulties in the world economy

and by the exceptional rainfall which has severely affected local agriculture and, in particular the sugar industry," he told the Chamber.

The Governor-General said that the fiscal policy pursued by Government during the past four and a half years met with great success in the redistribution of income towards the poorest section of the population.

In addition, he went on, Government achieved public sector savings to support the development of the productive capacity of the country, and the social and physical infrastructure on which it rested.

"The pre-emption of balance of payments and inflationary pressures through the management of the public of the public debt and the public sector deficits in a manner consistent with the short and long-run absorptive capacity of the economy have received special attention", Sir Deighton declared.

Turning to future government policy, the Governor-General said that foreign borrowing will be confined to making good temporary shortfalls in local agriculture or industrial earnings, or for productive investments in the economy.

He said such policies will be supported by the following income generation measures:

- Income and corporation tax exemptions for the export of non-sugar agricultural commodities;

- Special incentives for high employment businesses such as computer services and regional distribution organisations;

- A new tax regime for petroleum producing operations.

He also announced that a Government Investment Trust will be set up to act as a source of equity capital for small businesses.

Sir Deighton also announced measures which he said Government would be undertaking to tackle the question of energy which has brought a heavy economic burden on oil importing countries.

These include an expanded programme of petroleum and natural gas production; implementation of a wind energy pilot project to determine the future distribution and size of wind turbines; the use of solar energy for a wide range of purposes, including industrial cooling, on the basis of expanded tax incentives and concessionary loans for such purposes, and exploration of the potential for wave energy generation, and the installation of a wave energy device if deemed possible.

Remarks on Agriculture

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 22 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] Plans to stimulate agricultural development, improved education and provide an expanded health services will form part of the Barbados Labour Party's (BLP) programme during the coming five years.

These were all part of the Government's overall policy unveiled yesterday in the Senate by Governor-General Sir Deighton Ward while delivering the traditional throne speech at the official opening of a new parliamentary session.

Sir Deighton said the agricultural programme was targeted at making the islands as near self-sufficient in food production as was practicable, making the island a net exporter of food including sugar and products of the sea, improved marketing arrangements and pricing procedures.

In addition the agricultural thrust will encourage the agricultural entrepreneur, the farmer and the agricultural worker to be fully equipped and technically skilled so as to maximise earnings and improve productivity.

There will also be an improvement of cultivation techniques, establishment of a new Barbados Marketing Corporation (BMC) and the encouragement of the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) to get involve on a much larger fruit industry, support for dairy farmers, establishment of a feed

lot and a fish marketing and distribution agency.

The Governor-General also said that five new Polyclinics will be commissioned within the next three years in addition to the provision of full-time planning clinics and an expanded health education programme.

Turning to Education Sir Deighton declared "The new education act which was passed during the last Parliamentary session, will soon be promulgated; and a programme of guidance and counselling will be introduced initially in the Secondary Schools."

In addition he added, government will continue its programme of upgrading and replacing where necessary, its primary schools, there will be stepped up teachers training.

As regards unemployment Government will be tackling the issue by the two separate approaches.

"Firstly, by the creation of the condition and the investment climate which will allow the economy to expand at a real rate to meet increases in the labour force.

Secondly, by a concerted programme to match the availability of skills to employment opportunities through an expanded range of job training programmes for school-leavers, the introduction of a National Service Scheme, and by providing additional

educational opportunities aimed at meeting the demand for trades and new skills as may be required by the diversification of the economy."

In addition the development a manpower Planning Unit within the Labour Department will be continued, and the unit will make analyses of labour market information and prepare relevant data on which sound manpower policies can be formulated.

Sir Deighton stated further that the skills training project which commenced two years ago, will be continued, and the National training Board, established under the authority of the Occupational Training Act of 1979, will be launching a revamped apprenticeship training programme shortly.

Other measures will include the upgrading of the Employment Exchange to full fledged Employment Bureau to provide more comprehensive employment among other duties, expansion of the National Insurance and Social Security Scheme.

As a related matter Government will be introducing Comprehensive Labour Legislation to Parliament to deal with unfair dismissals, equal opportunity and equal treatment in employment for men and women, improved health, safety and welfare measures for employees in factories, and regulation of hours of work and minimum wages.

Expansion of Opposition

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 22 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] **THE Opposition will soon have a bigger voice in the Senate.**

It was hinted yesterday by Governor General Sir Deighton Ward that the Barbados Government would shortly

be proposing an amendment to the Constitution which would bring about this change.

During his Throne Speech yesterday, Sir Deighton Ward said:

"It is hoped, Mr. President and members of the

Senate and Mr. Speaker and members of the House of Assembly, that when next you meet on an occasion such as this, your approval will have been given, and the proposal implemented, for an increase in the proportion of seats for representatives of the Opposition

in this particular Chamber."

He also said that Government proposed to improve the facilities of Parliament and to make further provision for elected members to maintain constituency offices, so as to facilitate the electors in keeping

in touch with their representatives.

Sir Deighton also touched on other matters noting that the island's economy had managed to perform very well over the past three years, despite general difficulties in the world economy.

He outlined a wide-ranging set of energy conservation and

development activities which Government would embark on soon.

These included an expanded programme of petroleum and natural gas production, and the implementation of a wind energy pilot project to determine the future distribution and size of wind turbines.

Hinds in Speakership

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 22 Jul 81 p 1

[Article by Albert Brandford]

[Text]

ST. PETER MP, Burton Hinds, re-elected to the Speakership of the Barbados House of Assembly yesterday, immediately pledged to always remember that the minority has rights.

In his acceptance speech, Hinds said he was fully conscious of the responsibility placed on him by members in elevating him to that high office.

And, he issued an invitation to all members to play their part as he tried to carry out his responsibilities since they were all working for the good of the nation.

He said the House of Assembly looms larger than any of its members, who would all pass away, but the institution would remain for a long time, noting that it would stand and had withstood storms.

As he extended his thanks to MPs, Hinds urged them to pledge him their support.

He had earlier been elected by a 16-10 vote after a division was called for when the question was "put". He was taken "reluctantly" to the chair by two senior members of the ruling party.

Later, when Leader of the House, Lionel Craig, tried to move the suspension of the sitting, in order to continue with the formal opening Hinds pointed out to him that the Standing Orders of the House did not allow him to do that.

Opposition Leader Errol Barrow assured Hinds that if he continued to uphold the Standing Orders of the House in such a manner then he would have his unqualified support, pointing out that the Speaker could not take judicial notice of a programme prepared for visitors.

After the election of members to serve on various committees, and notice was given of a number of items of Government Business, the House was adjourned for the summer recess until Tuesday, September 8, at noon.

Workers Union Reaction

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 25 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

General Secretary of the Barbados Workers' Union (BWU). Mr. Frank Walcott, has warned that the union will not be co-operating in any measure of wage restraint.

He was reacting to a statement in the Throne Speech by Governor General, Sir Deighton Ward, at last Tuesday's

State Opening of Parliament that Government anticipates a slow-down in the rate of real growth in the economy from five per cent in 1980 to no more than two per cent in the next two years.

Government also said that in the interest of ensuring the long-term resilience of the economy it will find it necessary to in-

stitute measures to restrain consumption and to moderate wages over that period.

Mr. Walcott said the BWU could not support that statement since it did not reconcile with a statement made by Prime Minister, Tom Adams, earlier this year that Government had so well managed the economy that it had resisted inflation better than any other place in the world.

"We do not wish at this stage to hold him up to that

superlative statement but we wish to say that we cannot at this stage believe that in the same year 1981 you could come back and say to us, the workers, that we should restrain ourselves when it was stated earlier in the year how well inflation was managed."

The BWU General Secretary said the union wanted the

workers to know that the statement was not new but was "a similiar statement" made after elections.

"The sweet things come before but the bitter things will come after — this is typical of many governments of the world," said Mr. Walcott.

Mr. Walcott was emphatic that the union would not co-operate with any wage restraint

at any stage whatsoever as a means of under-writing an economy for a minority of people to enjoy a standard of living that is superior to the masses of workers of this country.

"It has not worked anywhere else," Mr. Walcott said. And he pointed out that the Union did not feel that the workers of Barbados should be "any economic guinea pigs."

CS0: 3025/189

POWER RESTORED AFTER CHAOTIC SIX DAYS OF BLACKOUTS

Damage to Tourism

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 13 Jul 81 p 1

[Excerpts] BAHAMAS ELECTRICITY Corporation services were almost back to normal over the weekend following a six-day crisis that left many areas of New Providence without power for periods of 12 hours and more.

The blackouts had a crippling effect on the economy and did incalculable damage to the tourist industry, causing at least 3,000 visitors to flee New Providence, taking back to their homes reports of hot, stuffy hotel rooms with non-flushing toilets, and closed restaurants.

As tourists arrived in Miami from their fourth of July weekend here, they were met

by TV cameras in Miami and their uncomplimentary and sometimes angry comments got wide publicity.

BEC general manager Peter Bethel, making his first public statement late last Wednesday, promised that full electricity service would be restored by the weekend or early this week "barring any unforeseen setback."

However, he warned it would take up to two months before equipment would arrive to replace faulty cables, which he said caused the blackouts.

However, while Mr Bethel's statement satisfied most New Providence residents, there are

still many that fear a complete breakdown of BEC equipment.

The questions many members of the public would like answered are:

- What is the overall state of BEC equipment?

- Why were two cables allowed to deteriorate "to the point of unreliability" before steps were taken to replace them?

- Is it correct, as BEC workmen have told The Tribune, that the amount of electricity coming from the three generating stations is low, and

- What is the likelihood of the problem recurring?

Call for Minister's Resignation

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 13 Jul 81 p 1

[Excerpt] MINISTER OF Works Loftus Roker came in for severe criticisms by the controversial National Progressive Committee for "going on a fishing trip while New Providence was in the throes of an electricity crisis." "Is Bahamas Electricity Corporation not his

responsibility," the NPC asked. "If he has any political sense, he will gracefully resign from active politics."

Mr Roker was on vacation last week when residents here faced massive blackouts due to faulty transmission cables. Mr Roker was contacted by telephone at Chub Cay where a

fishing tournament was being held. Tourism Minister Clement Maynard was named acting Works Minister.

Speaking from Chub Cay Minister Roker denied that he was advised by experts three years ago to have the transmission cables changed.

SDP Condemnation

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 7 Jul 81 pp 1, 8

[Excerpt]

THE SOCIAL Democratic Party, in a hard-hitting press statement, today strongly condemned Government as being responsible - through mismanagement and shortsightedness - for the break down of Bahamas Electricity Corporation equipment.

The statement read as follows:

"The Social Democratic Party holds the PLP government directly and solely responsible for the tremendous economic damage and maddening inconveniences being suffered by tourists and Bahamians, rich and poor alike.

because of the devastating power blackouts throughout New Providence.

"The cost of the power failures in recent weeks, in dollars and cents, as well as in human suffering, has been so astronomical that the Bahamian people can justifiably and with deep anger demand an answer from the government to one question. Why?

"The SDP is satisfied that the primary cause of the blackouts was not the much-publicized worker unrest. The go-slow, we believe, merely triggered a chain reaction of equipment

failures that would have happened sooner or later anyway.

"Blame for the severe personal hardships and economic dislocations resulting from the lack of power must be placed squarely on PLP negligence.

"It has become increasingly obvious that the workers' action simply brought forcefully to light serious underlying equipment problems and shortages that can only be the result of the PLP government's mismanagement and shortsightedness."

Call for Investigation

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 8 Jul 81 p 1

[Excerpts] The government came under fire from Opposition leader Kendal Isaacs today "for having allowed the country's utilities to deteriorate to the point where the entire economic life of the nation is at stake."

He also called for the appointment of an impartial commission to investigate and assess the capability of the nation's utilities with emphasis on the supply of electricity.

"The Government has failed abysmally to upgrade and expand our utilities, including our electricity generating and distribution system, appreciably beyond what they found when they came to power in 1967," Mr Isaacs said. "The PLP are trying to run a modern industrial resort complex with outdated geriatric equipment. As a result, the nation has been plunged into chaos.

"This of course does not take into account that this government has thus far been markedly unsuccessful in extending electrical services to the islands of the southeast," Mr Isaacs said.

CSO: 3025/188

BRIEFS

TUC WITHDRAWAL--The Bahamas Hotel Catering and Allied Workers Union announced Wednesday that effective immediately it has suspended indefinitely its affiliation with the Commonwealth of The Bahamas Trade Union Congress. The decision was arrived at, said the union's release, "after many weeks of soul-searching by the executives all of whom were involved directly or indirectly in the formation of the TUC and helped to make it what it is today." [Excerpt] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 11 Jul 81 p 6]

CSO: 3025/193

GOVERNMENT DEFEATED IN SENATE FOR FIRST TIME IN 34 YEARS

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 23 Jul 81 p 3

[Text]

HAMILTON, Bermuda, Wednesday, (CANAL) — The government has been defeated in the Senate on a proposal to buy land for a golf course in Bermuda's second town St. George's — the first major upset of a House of Assembly plan by the Upper House in more than 30 years.

The last time Members of Parliament suffered such a rebuff was in 1947, when the Legislative Council, as it was then called, sent back a Bill to allow the widespread introduction of cars on the island.

"It's a rare occasion indeed when the Upper House upsets the plans of the Lower House," said House of Assembly Clerk John Gilbert.

"The Upper House has often delayed Bills or plans by requesting amendments. It's rare for them to throw something out altogether as they have this time.

"But this shows the Senate has teeth and is not merely a rubber-stamping body," said Mr. Gilbert.

The plan rejected by the Senate was for government to be allowed to buy — compulsorily if necessary — three lots of land

needed to link two nine-hole golf courses to form an 18-hole course.

As part of a deal with York Hannover, a North American firm which intends building a controversial time-sharing cottage colony in St. George's, government has promised an 18-hole golf course. The plan was approved in the House of Assembly several weeks ago.

But after failing in the Senate it is likely to be the end of the year before it is discussed again as the House does not sit again until November following the summer recess.

Senators were tied five-five on the issue, which meant the proposal was defeated as the President of the Senate does not have a casting vote.

The only Senator missing for the vote was an independent, Stanley Gascoigne, who left the meeting 45 minutes previously he said because of an important prior engagement.

Of the ten Senators who voted, the five government members voted in favour while the three opposition and two other independent members voted against.

CSO: 3025/187

BRIEFS

BAN ON FOREIGN OWNERSHIP--Government is to ban the sale of new condominiums or apartments to non-Bermudians. But the clampdown will not affect those properties currently being built, or those which have already been proposed if such developers get their plans in to the Ministry of Home Affairs within the next two weeks. And exempt companies will be able to lease for up to 21 years properties for full-time, foreign staff working in Bermuda. All apartments or condominiums which have an annual rental value of less than \$5,700 will still have to be sold to Bermudians. So in effect, the only people really to suffer from the new policy outlined yesterday by the Hon. John Swan, Minister of Home Affairs, will be developers who had long-term plans to build properties with A.R.V.s of over \$5,700 and sell them to foreigners. Another change is that non-Bermudians wishing to buy apartments or condominiums here must possess a residency certificate, which is only issued by Home Affairs after careful scrutiny. In the past having enough money to buy property was the only qualification needed. [Excerpt] [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 24 Jul 81 pp 1, 5]

CSO: 3025/193

TRADE EXPANSION WITH PRC, UPCOMING NETTO VISIT DISCUSSED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Jul 81 p 23

[Article by Milano Lopes: "Delfim May Take Mission to China This Year"]

[Text] Moscow--Preparations have already begun for the next big trade mission that Planning Minister Delfim Netto will make abroad. Probably this year or early in 1982 he will go to China for the same purpose that brought him to Moscow; that is, an effort to expand Brazil's trade with large nontraditional markets through signing long-term contracts for sale of commodities and increasing exports of manufactured goods.

As a matter of fact, Delfim's trip to the PRC has been planned for some time and Itamaraty [Brazilian Foreign Affairs Ministry] and the international staff of the Planning Ministry have been working on it since the beginning of this year. Negotiations were slowed down, however, due to the more rapid development of the mission he has just made to the Soviet Union and, furthermore, it was not considered good strategy to announce at the same time an intention to go to both Moscow and Beijing, particularly in view of the current strained relations between the Chinese and the Soviets.

Prospects

However, the possibilities of expanding Brazil's trade with the PRC are as good as or better than those with the Soviet Union itself. China is in the midst of a process of entering the world market. It can develop projects to exploit the complementarity of its economy with that of Brazil through trade capable of assuming a reasonable bilateral balance. It can also develop, with Brazil, projects in other countries--in Africa as well as in Latin America and Southeast Asia--operating in countries where its political influence is visible and whose stage of economic development makes possible a Brazilian contribution in establishing infrastructure for transportation, telecommunications, public works, energy systems and so forth.

The Chinese do not lack any desire to increase business with Brazil. At the beginning of last year China was about to sign a long-term contract with Brazil for a minimum of 5 years for furnishing 500,000 tons of soybeans a year--the same that has just been signed with the Soviets--but did not succeed because Brazil did not try hard enough, especially for fear of not having enough when it came time to deliver on the promised sale.

When the Bank of Brazil decided to set up an office in Macao, an island administered by Portugal but in fact dominated by China, Chinese authorities offered all the facilities and the agency has been operating normally since last year. At the beginning of this year Beijing granted, almost immediately after the request was made, authorization for the Bank of Brazil to function in China. A large building in the center of the banking district was leased to BB [Bank of Brazil], which may begin operating this year or, at the latest, in the first quarter of 1982.

About 1 month ago a delegation from the Bank of China made an official visit to Brasilia to discuss the reciprocity agreement according to which one of its agencies will also function in Brazil, probably in Rio de Janeiro. On that occasion, during a reception the Chinese had for Brazilian officials in the Chinese Embassy and a lunch the Bank of Brazil gave in return, there was ample discussion of the need for a specific initiative by the Brazilian government about sending a high-level mission to Beijing to discuss the terms of a trade agreement between the two countries involving commodities as well as manufactured goods, an idea well-received by the Brazilian authorities.

On the Chinese side, the agreement could cover exports of petroleum and coal and, on the Brazilian side, the sale of soybeans, soybean meal and soybean oil, coffee, other commodities and some manufactured goods. Of course, just as occurred recently with the Soviet Union, Brazilian businessmen will be part of the official mission with the intention of identifying, through direct contact with Chinese state enterprises, products susceptible to negotiation, which will be part of a basic list that will lead to a much larger volume of trade.

This list, incidentally, began being prepared 2 months ago when a Brazilian business mission headed by former Planning Minister Reis Velloso was in Beijing, returning to Brazil convinced of the possibility of greatly expanding trade between the two countries.

Difficulties

Brazilian authorities, as well as the Chinese, acknowledge that there are difficulties to be overcome if trade levels commensurate with the size of the markets of the two countries are to be attained. The principal difficulty is the distance that separates Brazil from China, along with the fact that the Chinese do not have ports capable of receiving large oil tankers and bulk freighters that are now carrying interocean freight at a reduced cost.

Having ports with capacity to receive ships of 150,000 tons at the most, China is virtually forced to negotiate with its Asian neighbors, especially Japan, to re-export products acquired in other countries, naturally at a higher cost than that available on the world market.

This difficulty, however, is not insurmountable, as Brazil has been negotiating with Japan since last year for building a port structure called "Asia Port," which would function as a kind of entrepot for distribution of commodities, especially grain, with the Asian countries that do not have a port structure capable of receiving large ships.

At first the idea was to set up Asia Port at Mindanao in the Philippines, where Nippon Steel has a suitable location, but it is possible that it will be installed in Japan itself, where there are also ideal conditions, especially in the southern provinces. After it is decided where the port will be installed, little time will be needed to begin its operation, as Japan is making haste to have a place for receiving and redistributing commodities, not just for operational reasons but also in view of the possibility of influencing the pricing policies of such commodities on a world scale, to the extent that enormous volumes of commodities will be shipped to Asia, creating in this way a new axis in the world market. And the contribution of Brazil, as an exporter of commodities to the region, especially iron ore, is considered essential for the success of the undertaking.

Naturally, Brazil's interest in participating in building and operating the Asia Port will be greater if it generates conditions for expanding Brazil's trade with China. And it is in that direction that Planning Minister Delfim Netto intends to go, with the purpose of creating the broadest possible range of options for expanding Brazilian exports.

8834

CSO: 3001/221

EXPORT GOAL FOR 1981 SEEN 'DIFFICULT,' NOT 'IMPOSSIBLE'

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Jul 81 p 47

[Text] Brasilia--Brazilian exports this year are unlikely to reach the goal of \$26 billion, but the trade account has "great possibilities" of being balanced or even showing a small surplus, as it is expected that imports will exhibit a performance similar to that of last year, with a total of about \$23 billion. Hence, the aggregate value of domestic merchandise sold abroad will be about \$23 billion.

This reestimate of trade-balance prospects was made by Carlos Viacava, secretary general of the Finance Ministry. According to him, the picture could change if there is a significant improvement in prices of commodities (coffee, sugar, soybeans and cocoa), whose international quotations have been registering a mild recovery in recent days. Continuation of this trend could raise the sum total of exports. But Viacava feels that "anything \$100 million to \$500 million above \$23 billion would be an excellent result," taking into account that imports would also be at that level.

The basic working assumption of the Brazilian trade account for this year, according to the document "Foreign-Sector Policy," submitted to the National Monetary Council at its 21 January meeting, provides for a surplus of \$1 billion, with exports of \$26 billion and imports of \$25 billion. In the meantime, two additional assumptions are being made; one with the possibility of equilibrium and the other with a deficit of \$1 billion. The prospect of equilibrium indicates exports and imports of \$25 billion, and that of deficit shows exports of \$24 billion, compared with imports of \$25 billion.

Struggle for Equilibrium

According to Viacava, achieving equilibrium or having a small surplus is more important than exporting \$26 billion. "Last year," he says, "we had two goals: to arrive at equilibrium (which we did not manage to do because we had a deficit of about \$2.8 billion) and to reach exports of \$20 billion, which would have meant growing 30 percent over 1979. Everyone thought this goal was unattainable. We reached the \$20 billion and this was very important because it increased our credibility in the foreign market, especially in the financial area, whose position changed from water to wine.

"Now the bankers are coming to us. I never had lunch with so many bankers," he exclaims, referring to the frequent lunches offered in the Finance Ministry to managers

of international financial institutions, "who express confidence, saying that Brazil is a country with a future; they praise the measures we are taking and the results achieved so far, saying that we are on the right road," comments Viacava.

To retain this confidence of foreign bankers (creditors of a foreign debt approaching \$60 billion), the government must show it is capable of at least fulfilling the promise of balancing purchases and sales of merchandise. Explaining an export performance below expectations will be easier, in view of the world economic recession and the unending protectionist measures.

Although he believes it would be "difficult" to reach the export goal, Carlos Viacava does not consider this "impossible." According to him, the government has four good reasons (exchange rate, tax credit, seasonality of exports and recovery of commodity prices in the international market) to believe in the possibility of selling \$14 billion to \$15 billion in the international market during the second half of this year, thus ending the year with \$25 billion to \$26 billion. During the first 6 months of this year exports totaled \$10.855 billion, compared with \$9.193 billion in the same period last year. From July to December 1980, exports were \$10.939 billion.

No New Measure

In this second half, no new measure will be taken to encourage exports, although the policy of resolving individual problems as they arise is being retained, reports Viacava, recalling the case of beef, exports of which were again exempted from the tax on movement of merchandise (ICM); payment of operating-cost loans for soybeans, which was extended; and collection of the ICM for cotton, which was postponed for 90 days. "No overall measure," he emphasized.

To stimulate exports during the second half of this year, the government, according to the secretary general of the Finance Ministry, is depending upon an aggressive foreign-exchange policy, according to which devaluations of the cruzeiro against the dollar are keeping up with inflation. The cumulative rate of minidevaluations through 8 July was 42.3 percent, compared with an inflation rate through June of 45.2 percent. "In this way the exporter is getting something extra, which is external inflation (by the end of the year it will be about 12 percent)," said Viacava.

Another aspect that will have a favorable impact on exports in the second half of this year is the 15-percent tax credit on the value of manufactured exports. Although enacted in April, the measure took a while to get through the bureaucratic channels of its implementation. Last month, however, its effects could already be felt. In June, exports of manufactured goods--the products entitled to the tax credit--increased about 25 percent over June 1980, raising the monthly total to \$1.926 billion--the second highest in the history of Brazilian exports except for May of last year, when it was \$1.936 billion. According to Viacava, these two measures--exchange policy and tax credit--require a more aggressive posture by exporters. "They are under pressure and for this reason will make an effort to show good results," he judges.

The third aspect inducing authorities to have hopes of reaching the end of the year with exports of about \$25 billion is the very seasonality of sales. Traditionally, the second half of the year shows better performance, in consequence of selling

agricultural crops. Last year, for example, it was beginning in September that the monthly export figures presented agreeable surprises for the government, rising from \$1.653 billion in July to \$1.916 billion in December.

Allied with this factor, meanwhile, there should be a recovery in the international prices of products such as coffee, soybeans, cocoa and sugar. Despite the abundant world crops in these products--the reason for prices being low--the Brazilian government is going on the assumption that there are no international reserve supplies of these products and that foreign interest rates will fall. However, the latest change in the cost of money was higher, rather than lower, with the prime rate (preferential rate in the U.S. market) rising from 20 percent to 20.5 percent.

Even with the annoyance caused by interest rates, which inhibit importers from making substantial purchases due to the higher cost of financing them, the commodities market is being favorable to Brazil. Viacava has put up a chart showing daily changes in international quotations on the grain exchange of New York and London for coffee, sugar, the soybean complex (beans, meal and oil), cocoa, orange juice and wheat. The data for last Wednesday showed higher prices for all products except orange juice (concentrated) and wheat (a product which Brazil imports) compared to the average in June. Cocoa had the greatest price increase, rising from an average of \$1,446 per ton on the New York exchange in June to \$1,917 on 15 July. On 1 July its price was \$1,651 per ton. Any increase in these quotations (excluding wheat) is a source of joy in the General Secretariat of the Finance Ministry.

Imports

The other side of the trade balance--imports--seems much less complicated and more promising in relation to initial forecasts by the government at this stage of events. The expectation of the Finance Ministry's secretary general is that the nation's expenditures for merchandise in the foreign market this year are increasing not at all or "slightly," compared with \$22.961 billion imported in 1980.

In regard to petroleum--the biggest import item (about \$10 billion this year)--Viacava believes that in the second half of the year the value of purchases will be the same as that of the second half of 1980 (\$4.5 billion). From January to June this year, oil imports totaled \$5.2 billion, compared with \$4.7 billion in the same period last year, representing an increase of 9 percent, which should be maintained until the end of the year.

Other imports, which declined by 6.6 percent in value during the first half of this year, compared with the January-June 1980 period--and which led to a decrease of almost 1 percent in the aggregate amount of imported goods--should begin increasing again in the next few months, although at a slower rate than during the same period last year. "It would be exaggerated optimism to think that this drop will continue in the second half of the year," Viacava figures.

During the first 6 months of 1981 the Brazilian economy did not require large purchases in the foreign market because it had stocks of merchandise formed last year and used during the period. The high cost of money contributed to this inventory liquidation. "Assuming that business will not come to a standstill during the second half of the year, an increase of imports is expected, although without

completely rebuilding inventories," the Finance Ministry secretary general believes. "Imports could fall to lower levels if we assumed a recession but, as the economy will continue to grow, imports will return to their normal pace during the second half of the year," Viacava adds. But he feels that "they are very likely to be the same as last year."

Exports (Millions of Dollars), January through May

<u>Category</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
Grand Total	8,929	7,540	+ 18.4
Commodities	3,632	3,092	+ 17.4
Industrialized Goods	5,213	4,370	+ 19.2
Semimanufactured Goods	822	842	- 2.4
Manufactured Goods	4,392	3,528	+ 24.4

Steepest Declines and Largest Increases During These 5 Months:

Commodities:

Raw sugar	227	259	- 12.5
Cocoa Beans	57	70	- 18.6
Coffee Beans	753	1,031	- 27.0
Frozen Beef	29	1	--
Chicken	124	65	+ 90.7
Soybean Meal	816	500	+ 63.2
Leaf Tobacco	164	136	+ 20.5
Metallurgical Ores	756	581	+ 30.4
Soybeans	179	66	+171.2

Semimanufactured Goods:

Crystal Sugar	27	70	- 61.5
Pig Iron	23	60	- 61.7
Soybean Oil	251	101	+148.5

Manufactured Goods:

Instant Coffee	110	125	- 12.0
Cotton Thread	58	88	- 34.1
Iron and Steel Products	186	267	- 30.4
Cotton Cloth	37	59	- 37.3
Refined Sugar	168	125	+ 34.4
Footwear	220	151	+ 45.6
Canned Beef	120	96	+ 25.0
Transportation Equipment	714	490	+ 45.7
Automobiles	116	36	+221.0
Buses	48	26	+ 84.6
Tractors	71	56	+ 26.7
Freight Vehicles	126	64	+ 96.8
CKD Vehicles	119	64	+ 85.9
Refined Soybean Oil	36	4	+800.0
Orange Juice	227	186	+ 48.9

Imports (Millions of Dollars), January through May

<u>Category</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
Cereals, except Wheat	221	109	+102.7
Wheat	319	399	- 20.1
Petroleum	4,426	3,999	+ 10.7
Processed Plants, Seeds and Oil-bearing Fruit	132	46	+186.9
Fats and Oils	14	76	- 81.6
Chemical Products	835	1,079	- 22.7
Fertilizer	122	186	- 34.5
Boilers, Machines, Mechanical and Electrical Apparatus	1,315	1,454	- 10.6
Optical, Photographic and Musical Instruments	166	229	- 27.6

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CSO: 3001/221

CONCERN WITH MILITARY USE OF SPACE VEHICLES EXPRESSED

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 20 Jul 81 p 5

[Text] Brasilia--For the purpose of preventing militarization of cosmic space, Brazil, Egypt and other countries of the United Nations belonging to the Committee for Peaceful Uses of Space presented a proposal for an international agreement to prohibit placing any kind of weapon or ordnance equipment in outer space.

Itamaraty [Brazilian Foreign Affairs Ministry] sources express the profound concern of the Brazilian government with the possibility of spaceships of the Columbia type, new anti-satellite systems and the most modern technological apparatus in space being used for military purposes, extending the arms race between the superpowers far beyond the stratosphere.

The Committee for Peaceful Uses of Space has already approved some international treaties, among them those for denuclearizing the moon and other celestial bodies, rescue of astronauts, recovery of objects launched into space and responsibility for damages caused on earth by artificial satellites.

There is already a treaty that regulates the use of cosmic space, prohibiting launching nuclear weapons and regulating peaceful uses. Many countries, including Brazil, believe that the treaty does not adequately provide for new space technologies, as it was signed in 1967.

According to diplomatic sources, the treaty contains a loophole that can be used to launch into space veritable military centers capable of guiding missiles on earth and using the ABM [antiballistic missile] and satellite pursuit systems.

For these reasons the committee's new proposal intends to banish definitively any type of weapon or ordnance equipment from outer space, preserving its use for peaceful purposes.

A second controversial topic that was discussed during the recent meeting of the committee, concluded last week, is in regard to the proposals for regulating television transmissions by satellite. According to Itamaraty sources, the new technological progress in this field now permits direct transmission of a program by satellite, dispensing with the receiving station. These programs can be picked up directly by the television viewer on his home television set.

Brazil and some other members of the committee have been fighting for establishing principles or regulations that prevent, for example, messages that incite to violence or racial discrimination or dishonest advertising of consumer goods.

The United States advocates freedom to launch into space any type of programming, leaving the television viewer to decide whether or not to watch. All the viewer needs is a receiving antenna and a signal amplifier, portable equipment that is being sold for less than \$500 (50,000 cruzeiros). Brazil, the Soviet Union and most of the 47 member countries of the committee want to make transmission and reception of messages subject to consent of the state on the grounds that a nation is entitled to preserve aspects of its inhabitants' cultural or political identity.

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CSO: 3001/221

GUERREIRO VIEWS FRG NUCLEAR ACCORD, NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Jul 81 p 5

[Text] Brasilia--Foreign Affairs Minister Saraiva Guerreiro asserted yesterday that Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals "did not mean to say, in a recent statement, that the atomic agreement between Brazil and the FRG will be substantially modified." After recalling that, as foreign relations minister, he was not qualified to speak about the pace of construction under the nuclear agreement, Guerreiro assured that:

"I can say that the understanding between the parties has been to this day exemplary. The incidents along the way are normal and are absorbed naturally by the parties. It is rare that any large hydroelectric plant is built rigorously on schedule." The minister also made some comments about the Reagan administration's nuclear policy: "The tone and the attitude are more positive in regard to the nuclear problem in general. Specifically, the United States now appears, judging by the policy, to be a more reliable supplier."

Middle East

The foreign affairs minister acknowledges that "it is necessary to go beyond" the problem of the Middle East, "but it is difficult to imagine that Brazil alone could do that. Our possibility of action is limited."

In the foreign minister's opinion, Brazil has a "very clear position" on the subject and "the detail that the telegram from President Figueiredo to the president of Lebanon was not sent at the first moment does not represent any change of policy. Brazil believes the recent attack by Israel on Lebanon was unjustifiable and reprehensible from all points of view."

Guerreiro believes that Brazil has no reason to be "fearful or inhibited" regarding Iraq and denied that Baghdad is being used as an entryway for Brazilian penetration in the Arab world: "We do not use any country as an opening wedge in any region and we have good relations with all the Arab countries."

Moreover, the foreign minister does not feel that the visit of Planning Minister Delfim Netto to Moscow and the important conversations held there constitute any "political change" in Brazil's relations with the Soviet Union: "Our trade has been showing a stagnant or declining trend. We were selling more than we were buying. What was really new was the agreement about technological cooperation, putting it into a legal framework."

Saraiva Guerreiro did not directly answer a question about a possible reduction of ideological prejudice by certain sectors of Brazilian society in regard to the dialogue with communist countries:

"The sectors that I know anything about are very much in agreement that Brazil should explore possibilities of cooperation, within the limits of certain principles. We do not have exaggerated fears. We are not going to do anything on a naive basis. We scrupulously respect the principle of nonintervention. Within this framework it is possible to seek forms of cooperation."

Delfim Netto's trip to the People's Republic of China, according to the minister, will not signify any political change: "In this visit economic cooperation will be examined and an evaluation of the dialogue with Beijing will be made."

North-South

Brazil views the North-South dialogue in a "constructive spirit," Guerreiro said. He feels that there is not just one crisis due to the petroleum problem, the monetary crisis or the trade crisis. The foreign minister thinks it is important for industrialized and developing countries to be "mutually sensitive" to each other and he explains: "Let us not reach the shortsightedness of the 1930's after the Great Depression. We believe it is necessary to have faith in the expansion of the world economy."

In the communique about the meeting of the rich countries in Ottawa some points were mentioned that "have been reiterated," in Guerreiro's opinion. He spoke of one item that is of particular interest to Brazil: the subsidies paid by the rich countries to industries that are no longer competitive. This subsidy, in the minister's opinion, is one of the causes of the difficulty developing countries have in gaining access to international markets. The fact that the Ottawa communique referred to "global negotiations" represents, in the opinion of the Brazilian government, a "certain progress."

For the foreign minister, "the only thing new" in the Ottawa communique regarding developing countries is that "it contains more lines." In the North-South dialogue negotiations, the most important thing for Brazil, according to him, is trade.

Saraiva Guerreiro recalled further that Brazil has been using its "limited means" of action to cooperate bilaterally with the countries of Central America and the Caribbean: "In more general terms, its support has been more moral." He cited, as an example, the donation of \$5 million to the CARICOM and reaffirmed that the nation supports all initiatives by countries in a position to collaborate more fully, referring to the initiative of the United States in calling upon Mexico, Venezuela and Canada to expand their cooperation with that region.

The foreign-affairs minister said he speaks about visits of the president only after they have been announced officially by the governments. He gave this explanation for not saying directly whether there are prospects for a visit by Joao Figueiredo to Bolivia or by Gen Augusto Pinochet to Brazil.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN DEBT RISE--Brasilia--The gross Brazilian foreign debt at the end of May was \$55.4 billion, about \$1.5 billion more than the balance at the end of last year. According to the forecast of monetary authorities, this amount is likely to rise to \$60 billion by the end of this year. Discounting foreign reserves, which on 30 June were \$6.1 billion, the nation's net debt with foreign banks fell to \$49.3 billion. The director of the Foreign Area of the Central Bank, Jose Carlos Madeira Serrano, predicted a recuperation of these reserves by the end of the year, so that 1981 will close with \$6.9 billion. The increase of Brazil's foreign debt during the first 5 months of this year was \$500 million more than that of the same period last year, when the amount rose from \$50.5 billion on 31 December 1979 to \$51.5 billion on 31 May 1980. Central Bank technicians mentioned yesterday that the total foreign debt does not include short-term debt, contracted to honor immediate payments. With a payment period of less than 1 year, such debts are not counted along with the long-term debt. One of the Central Bank technicians disclosed that the amount of short-term debt is not \$10 billion as was reported recently. According to him, "it isn't all that much," although he has not reported the actual amount. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 Jul 81 p 19] 8834

JUNE UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES--From June of last year to June of this year unemployment increased in all metropolitan regions surveyed by the IBGE [Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics]: Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Belo Horizonte, Porto Alegre, Salvador and Recife. Compared with May, unemployment rose only in Rio de Janeiro: the rate rose from 8.87 percent to 8.91 percent. In Sao Paulo, it fell from 7.30 percent to 7.15 percent; in Belo Horizonte, from 9.56 percent to 8.98 percent; in Porto Alegre, from 6.39 percent to 5.96 percent; in Salvador, from 9.86 percent to 9.66 percent; and in Recife, from 8.97 percent to 8.51 percent. The actual number of unemployed in the regions surveyed is not furnished by the IBGE, which only reports the "rate of unemployment." In any event, comparing the rates of June 1980 with the rates of June this year, it is possible to verify that they increased 32.9 percent in Sao Paulo, 23.2 percent in Salvador, 22.4 percent in Recife, 20.6 percent in Porto Alegre, 14.8 percent in Belo Horizonte and only 11.9 percent in Rio de Janeiro. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 24 Jul 81 p 19] 8834

CSO: 3001/221

VARIOUS FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES DISCUSSED

Latin Dictatorships, CIA

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish May 81 p 2

[Editorial by Carlos Mora Herman: "Empire of Terror"]

[Text] A single story can be woven from the testimony offered by citizens of Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, Bolivia, Haiti and Argentina.

Arbitrary arrests can and do take place anywhere: in a cafe, a theater, the street, a factory or shop, or one's own home.

The perpetrators almost never identify themselves: they are heavily armed and use vehicles, often cornering the victim in the middle of the street and kidnaping him before the startled eyes of passersby.

They enter one's home by breaking down the door, search everywhere and tear the premises apart.

The persons thus seized are taken to a police station, military barracks or special location, where the dirty work of "making them talk" begins.

Some of the captors will mockingly ask: "What kind of torture do you prefer?" With profound cynicism they then explain to their victims that they can choose, because they live in a democracy.

Then the torture begins. The methods in current use are new, refined and scientific: blows that leave no trace, precise blows to preselected areas of the body, blows that produce terrible discomfort.

Great care is taken not to leave any marks on the body; to treat hematomas so that they will disappear; and to leave no visible evidence of the torture.

Certain doctors lend their effective cooperation in achieving the last-named objective; they examine the victims periodically to determine the extent to which the latter can withstand the torture and to prevent them from dying in the process.

All of this is going on today, right now, in a terrifying world in which terrorism is practiced at the level of state policy.

It is terrorism designed to curb popular rebellion: to dissuade the disaffected and those who are fighting for social change--change that cannot be postponed.

The government of the United States--through its operational arm, the Central Intelligence Agency--is utilizing its diplomatic representatives, embassies and consulates and its cultural, economic and political penetration to create, encourage and support terrorism throughout the Latin American continent and the rest of the world.

Some years ago a CIA agent, Dan Mitrione, who was training and preparing the Uruguayan forces of repression to torture and murder the revolutionary combatants, was executed by the Uruguayan Tupamaros.

This role of advisers, trainers, instructors and directors has been played--and is being played--by U.S. personnel in all countries where the regimes in power are employing repression as a means to remain in power.

Moreover, those cadres who are most highly qualified to practice torture and murder have been trained and coached in the schools which the United States maintains on its own territory and also in Panama and Puerto Rico.

Three and a half centuries ago the area which the United States occupies today was virgin territory occupied by diverse Indian nations who lived by farming, hunting and fishing.

The arrival of the whites and their rule sealed the fate of the Indians, who were massacred in the most brutal manner and with the use of terrorism by an incipient state which would impose its rule upon the broad plains of the Indians "at the point of a gun," to use the popular expression.

U.S. foreign policy has always been characterized by this braggadocio of the "cowboy" of the Western films, who settles everything by imposing his savage dominion and by the quickness of his draw or the quickness of his fists.

The primal instincts of bygone days persist, despite the tremendous development of U.S. society; and on repeated occasions that country gives the impression that it lives by the law of the jungle and the rule of brutality.

This was the case in connection with episodes such as the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and his brother Robert, and Martin Luther King; the murder of black children recently in the South; the violent deaths of Mexican immigrants in California; and other events that have imparted a special coloration to the history of that country during the past 20 years.

Toward the end of the last century, Jose Marti was already calling the United States "the boisterous and brutal North."

This "boisterous and brutal North" is the same "North" that is supporting, maintaining, training and arming the terrorists of the continent.

It is surprising that the nation which uses terrorism as an instrument of destabilization and which gives protection and asylum to the most prominent terrorists and criminals of the continent and the world is now attempting to launch a propaganda

campaign to brand as "terrorists" those who are fighting for independence and freedom and for their rights, especially the right to self-determination for their peoples.

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of the United States has participated in tens of acts of violence and murder committed on Latin American soil.

Suffice it to recall the invasion of Guatemala in 1954; the invasion of Cuba at Playa Giron in 1961; the invasion of the Dominican Republic in 1965; and the support given to Trujillo, Pinochet, Somoza, Stroessner and the genocidal junta in El Salvador.

The CIA has trained and prepared--for the commission of these crimes--terrorists of Cuban origin who have caused numerous deaths and gone unpunished because of the protection which Washington provides for its gunmen.

The CIA has hatched plots to assassinate heads of state of countries whose governments are not to the liking of the United States.

Now that government, with its bloody history--an empire that uses terror as a weapon to achieve domination and safeguard its interests--wants to tell the peoples of this continent what to do and tell them that the Sandinist combatants in Nicaragua, those who are fighting against the murderous junta in El Salvador, and the Guatemalan guerrillas are the terrorists.

Such an outrageous lie is devoid of any substance in the world of today.

Communist Party Congresses

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish May 81 p 21

[Article by Miguel Rivero: "An Example of Cohesion"]

[Text] During the month of April the congresses of the communist parties of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Democratic Germany performed the function of ratifying once again the irrevocable basic policy of safeguarding peace and international detente, supporting the movements of national liberation, and halting the arms race.

The 12th Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party opened on 31 March and concluded on 4 April. The Czechoslovak communists met from 6 to 10 April, and finally, the Unified Socialist Party of Germany (PSUA) held its 10th Congress from 11 to 16 April, several days before the 35th anniversary of its founding.

In all these forums it was clearly demonstrated that the enemies of detente and the advocates of the arms race were stirring up a climate of war, and that the danger of a conflagration of incalculable consequences for the human race was increasing.

The three congresses were held at a time when the progressive elements of mankind were demonstrating that the policy of the imperialists is designed to aggravate the international situation and hasten a return to the days of the "cold war" by reviving the manifestations of "anti-Sovietism" and creating the conditions for "psychological warfare," thereby debilitating the progress achieved in the struggle for detente and for peace.

The rostrums of these three assemblies of the communists of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and the GDR were utilized to call attention to the attacks on the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. The imperialists initially resorted to their unsuccessful campaign "in defense of human rights," and are now continuing the pursuit of their aims with an all-out offensive against genuine socialism, in a vain attempt to isolate the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community.

Sofia, Prague and Berlin provided the setting for ratification of the peace proposals formulated by the secretary general of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Leonid I. Brezhnev, and submitted to the 26th Congress of the CPSU, held from 23 February to 3 March.

Both the meeting of the Soviet communists and the meetings of the other three European parties were transformed into veritable international congresses by the massive presence of delegations from all parts of the world and in particular from the recently liberated peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

"Today there is no task more important on the international scene for our party, for our people and for all the peoples of our planet than safeguarding peace," Brezhnev proclaimed to the 26th Congress of the CPSU.

These were not mere rhetorical phrases. The secretary general of the Soviet party presented a detailed program of action which includes prior notification of military maneuvers that would extend to the entire European part of the USSR, on condition that there be corresponding publicity on the part of the Western states; the continuation, without delay, of the negotiations with the United States; the signature of an agreement to limit the deployment of new types of nuclear submarines; a moratorium on the emplacement of new nuclear weapons in Europe; and the convening of a special session of the Security Council--with the participation of the top leaders of the member states--"for the purpose of seeking the key to remedying the international situation and preventing war."

Not only did these proposals receive total support at the April congresses but the clamor for their immediate implementation--and for a positive response to them--has spread to Western Europe and to progressive sectors in the United States as well.

It could not have been otherwise, inasmuch as the European continent has not escaped the aggressive intentions of the imperialists, who are planning to install 572 nuclear devices on the "Old Continent" and aim them at the socialist community.

Those who are attempting to sell the notion that "a limited nuclear war is possible and acceptable" were dealt a stunning blow on the European scene when these sinister plans were exposed, and this served as an instructive warning that in a nuclear holocaust there would be no victors.

To be sure, the subject of the situation in Poland was also addressed at these three assemblies. The response can be summed up in one sentence: in the case of Poland a vigorous response to domestic and international reaction has become necessary, in order to ensure the successful development of socialism in that country.

These events serve in this respect, as in other respects, to highlight the unity and cohesion of the countries of the socialist community, which also reaffirmed the principle of support for the movements of national liberation and the principle of intensifying the relations of cooperation with the recently liberated countries.

In reviewing the successes achieved in the construction of the developed socialist society and the enhancement of the well-being of the people, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and the GDR ratified their internationalist policy in their capacity as a bulwark of peace and as distinguished exponents of the strength of socialism--the impassable barrier against the enemies of mankind.

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ARMANDO ACOSTA EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH KAMPUCHEA

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 14 Jun 81 p 3

[Speech given by Armando Acosta Cordero, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba and head of the Cuban delegation to the 4th Congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea]

[Text] Dear Comrades:



ON BEHALF of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, its members and all our people, and especially of our first secretary, Comrade Fidel Castro, it is with deep satisfaction that I transmit to you, worthy representatives of the Communists of Kampuchea, our deep feelings of militant solidarity at this singular gathering: the 4th Congress of your Party.

The report presented to the Congress by esteemed Comrade Pen Sovan has shown how the Kampuchean Communists, loyal to Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, have always been in the vanguard of their heroic people's struggles both against the French colonialists and the Yankee imperialists, despite the great sacrifices involved. The report also points out how the Communists and the other Khmer patriots, under the banner of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation and with the militant solidarity of the Vietnamese Communists and people, defeated for good the genocidal regime of traitors Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan, submissive servants of Maoist expansionism. Now, the report notes, together with the rest of the population, the Communists are dedicating themselves with renewed enthusiasm to the task of rebuilding the country while defending every inch of their beloved country.

Solidarity has played a lofty role in your difficult struggle: the solidarity maintained during these years of constant battles by the fighters of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea; solidarity received from the sister nations of the socialist community and from all other peoples who champion peace and justice.

We are moved to see how in just over two years, on the ruins of a society subjected to the barbarous Maoist experiment

which resulted in the death of more than three million people and the destruction of their social and family patterns, the people are taking firm strides towards the restoration of all those values which had been trampled on.

The land is being worked again, the children are going to school, the health workers are striving to save human lives. Phnom Penh, which had arbitrarily been turned into a "dead city," has been revived by the activity of hundreds of thousands of people. They, with their creative work, the perfume of the flowers and the song of the birds have restored life to your beautiful capital.

Recently, you have experienced events of great revolutionary significance with the elections and the adoption of the new Constitution, which defines the path of socialism as the means of social development, reaffirms solidarity among the peoples of Indochina and states your willingness to have good relations with neighboring countries.

We rejoice over the success of the general elections to the National Assembly of the Republic for which the voters chose the best representatives of the workers, peasants and revolutionary intellectuals.

The process of institutionalization together with the holding of this historic 4th Congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea are unequivocal signs of the rapid progress of the Kampuchean Revolution and of its irreversible nature.

This valuable effort by the Kampuchean people has had to be made amid constant harassment by the reactionary forces that, although they have been ousted from power, keep trying to unite in a single counterrevolutionary bloc, grouping together the Pol Pot butchers; Sihanouk, the traitor; and all the other anticommunist scum. These elements have the backing of the Peking hegemonists and the Yankee imperialists. We are convinced that these maneuvers will fail thanks to the militancy and

staunch determination of the Kampuchean people.

Dear comrades, this important event of the Kampuchean Communists is taking place at a time when the world reactionary forces, especially the most aggressive sectors of Yankee imperialism, are steering their policy towards confrontation, using the warlike language characteristic of the cold war era and halting the policy of détente which the peace-loving forces of the world had firmly and patiently built up.

These sectors are fanning the flames of war; they are trying to turn Europe into an arsenal of new nuclear weapons directed against the Soviet Union and the other European socialist countries; they are heightening tension and the crisis in the Middle East; they are shamelessly backing the South African racists; they are obstructing the hopes to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace; and they dream of drowning the demands of the peoples for a better and fairer life in a bloodbath.

In Our America the imperialists' aggressiveness is being manifested with special force. The heroic sister people of El Salvador is being slaughtered with the complicity and intervention of the U.S. Government. The revolutionary processes in Nicaragua and Grenada are being threatened openly, and the most retrograde forces and the most repressive dictatorships in Latin America are being encouraged.

In Southeast Asia this policy takes on an especially virulent form via the Yankee link to the Peking expansionists. They are trying to subvert the Indochinese Revolution and obstruct the relations of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos with other governments of the area. In this respect, the proposals made at the conferences of foreign ministers of the Indochinese countries constitute a valuable contribution to the search for a political solution and a significant contribution to détente and peace in the area.

As you know, the imperialists have also stepped up their threats against our country.

They try to ignore history and speak of more drastic actions against Cuba, including a naval blockade, and they are even making noises about a direct attack. But the howling of the Washington wolves doesn't cause our people to lose any sleep, and with greater courage and determination, they daily fulfill the watchword that came out of the 2nd Congress of our Party: Production and Defense.

On May Day, more than a million men, women and children, along with our Territorial Troop Militia, paraded through historic Revolution Square in another militant demonstration, thus reaffirming their determination to destroy any attacker who tries to set foot on our socialist homeland, as they did 20 years ago at Giron.

Dear comrades and friends, the relations of fraternal friendship and militant solidarity between the peoples of Cuba and Kampuchea, which were forged and consolidated through our common struggle against Yankee imperialism and for a more just society, are now more solid and profound.

On this solemn occasion, we would like to reiterate the willingness of all our people to continue making their modest contribution to the historic task in which you are now involved to make the People's Republic of Kampuchea a prosperous and happy country marching steadily towards the socialist and communist future.

Long live the 4th Congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea!

Long live the indestructible brotherhood between the Parties and peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea!

Long live free People's Kampuchea!

Long live the Soviet Union!

Long live proletarian internationalism!

Long live socialism and communism!

PCC MESSAGE TO PZPR CONGRESS READ BY RODRIGUEZ

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 26 Jul 81 p 6

[Text] Warsaw, July 15 (PL).--Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba, said today that the 9th Special Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP) was a far-reaching event in the life of the Polish nation.

The Cuban leader spoke today before the Congress, which opened here yesterday. The following is the full text of his speech:

Comrade Chairman of the Session:
Esteemed Delegates and Guests to the 9th
Congress of the Polish United Workers'
Party:

I bring fraternal greetings from the first socialist state on the American continent, sent to you by the Cuban workers, our Communist Party and its first secretary, Comrade Fidel Castro.

The 9th Congress of the PUWP is a far-reaching event in the life of the Polish nation. But it is much more than that. The decisions adopted here, the way the problems now affecting Polish society and its Party are dealt with and resolved, the way past mistakes that have been identified and criticized in your discussions are corrected, all of these are of keen interest to the entire socialist community and the world revolutionary and progressive movement.

The enemies of socialism — who are unquestionably the enemies of Poland, for it is only through socialism that Poland can guarantee its national consolidation and independence — are trying to take advantage of the events that have occurred here to discredit the socialist regime, undermine the foundations of socialist society in Poland, tear Poland away from its sister nations, alter the balance of forces in Europe and the world and thus continue the international activity that they have set in motion and that again endangers peace and the peoples' national independence.

In the midst of the tensions that are rocking the world and as a part of them,

the problems now facing the Polish Communists are our own problems. That is why humanity's best forces have focused their attention on this hall today.

The traditions of Poland, of its working class, of its people, give us confidence. Within the next few days it will be the 37th anniversary of the historic moment which the Polish people have accurately named "the rebirth of Poland." Whatever may be the critical considerations of the people and the Polish Communists in their analysis of the last few decades, the efforts and the obvious achievements of socialism are ever present. That is why, in the midst of all the difficulties and contradictions of the last while, we have always heard this irrevocable statement: "Poland is and will continue to be a socialist country."

The lofty patriotic, revolutionary and internationalist tradition of the Polish people and their great class consciousness reaffirm that decision.

The people, who faced with so much oppression upheld and defended their national identity and courageously resisted the Nazis, have moral and patriotic reserves to solve the complex tasks that lie ahead today.

Imperialism is mobilizing all its resources in order to activate and encourage its anti-socialist and antirevolutionary reserves for the purpose of turning the process of rectification, which the Polish Communists consider necessary, into a struggle against socialism.

These traditions of the Polish people and its working class give us hope that the results of the 9th Congress will contribute not only to safeguarding the healthy and patriotic aspirations of the Polish people and workers but also strengthening socialism and thereby guaranteeing the world process towards peace.

I convey to you the Cuban Communists' sincere hope that from this Congress will emerge a strengthened, more cohesive Polish United Workers' Party, reaffirmed as an unfailing and militant detachment that will firmly apply, creatively but soundly, the principles of Marxism-Leninism and resolutely join in the common struggle for socialism, the peoples' liberation and peace.

Today humanity is living through moments of anxiety and danger. The most aggressive and reactionary forces of U.S. imperialism are bent on recovering their world domination, imposing a global policy based on blackmail and military superiority, threatening the socialist countries and forcing the revolutionary and democratic movement, which has won so many important victories over the past few years, to retreat.

While with sly hypocrisy the imperialists feign concern for the problems of the Polish people, they dump the crisis of capitalism on millions of jobless people in their own countries; advocate, in the name of helping the economy, the abolition of social benefit programs that the workers had won for themselves through unrelenting efforts; and keep the peoples of the so-called Third World in backwardness and poverty.

At the same time they seek to force the deployment of nuclear weapons on Western Europe, unmindful of the catastrophe that might afflict the European peoples. Claiming a senseless right to military superiority over the Soviet Union, they are blocking détente and renewing the arms race.

They are providing weapons to the bloodiest and most repugnant regimes of our time. They are exacerbating the most ferocious forms of fascism, racism, anticommunism and anti-Sovietism everywhere.

They are strengthening their ties with the South African racists, intervening to prop up the genocidal regimes in El Salvador and Guatemala, plotting to destroy the Nicaraguan and Grenadian Revolutions, encouraging the Chilean and Uruguayan fascists, and continuing to deprive the Palestinian people of their inalienable national rights.

Towards this goal, they dream of carrying their provocations and reactionary maneuvers to the heart of the socialist community itself. In the light of such threats it is clear that our own strength lies in our ideology, our unity, our unshakable cohesiveness, our faithfulness to Marxism-Leninism and the principles of proletarian internationalism.

The historical role played by the Soviet Union as the main guarantee of the invincibility of socialism is also becoming increasingly clear. As time goes by more and more peoples choose to march along the path to socialism and communism.

Confronted by their aspirations, we Communists from the countries where socialism has already been established have an enormous historical responsibility. Communists have always been extraordinary examples of dedication, heroism, incorruptible honesty and courageous criticism and self-criticism.

What makes us invincible is not that we are infallible but that we know how to correct our mistakes vigorously and promptly, supported by the masses and acting with absolute loyalty to the working people. The imperialists and their allies are today trying to prove that they can make socialism retreat.

That is the challenge with which we are now faced. We are committed before history, before the peoples and before the communist movement to reaffirm that socialism is irreversible when principles are applied and to prove that when the Party is united with the masses and serves them with complete dedication no retreat is possible.

Esteemed comrades, for over 20 years the Cuban people have had to heroically face aggressions of every kind launched by the U.S. imperialists.

But they have not succeeded in defeating us. Today we modestly but proudly exhibit a new nation to the world, rich in economic, political and social achievements and built thanks to the sacrifice, the efforts and the blood of all the people; the solidarity of workers and peoples the world over; and the unselfish and decisive aid given to us by the countries of the socialist community, very particularly the Soviet Union.

With their aggressive arrogance and their determination to increase tension everywhere, the current rulers of the United States have stepped up their threats against our country. Added to the shameful economic blockade imposed on us over 20 years ago are new acts of hostility supplemented by a threatened military blockade.

The Cuban people have responded with total mobilization under the slogan of "production and defense" issued by the 2nd Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba. We can say to our Polish brothers and sisters that today more than ever our country is not only making important progress in production but is also establishing itself as an impregnable bastion in defense of its achievements, its principles and the socialist system chosen by it.

We want peace and we are dedicating constant efforts to that goal, but we will never retreat in the face of aggression.

Comrades, the friendship between the Polish and Cuban peoples and between the Communists of the two countries has been forged by the common desire to move forward in the construction of socialism on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

This friendship dates back to the last century, when Polish patriot Carlos Roloff fought bravely in our wars of independence. It will be further enriched in the future through fraternal cooperation, unity of action against imperialism and in favor of social justice, independence for all peoples and peace.

The future belongs completely to communism. Conquering the future is a duty and the greatest honor that can be bestowed on a revolutionary. The ideals envisioned

by Marx of a new world built by the workers is becoming a reality.

By learning from our own mistakes we will turn socialism into an increasingly beautiful reality, more firmly based on the aspirations of the people. The triumphant banners of the proletariat, stained red with the blood of millions of workers, will keep moving forward. And we are certain that marching among the standard-bearers will be the honorable sons and daughters of the heroic Polish people.

Long live proletarian internationalism!

Long live socialism and communism!

Long live the indestructible friendship between the peoples and Communists of Poland and Cuba!

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ERRATUM: In JPRS 78742, 13 August 1981
No 2352 of this series, pp 14-17 article
EDUCATION MINISTER REVIEWS EDUCATION PROCESS
was incomplete. It is reprinted here to
include missing portion.

ERRATUM: EDUCATION MINISTER REVIEWS EDUCATION PROCESS

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY in English 5 Jul 81 pp 3-4

[Text]

Comrade Deputies:



IT GIVES me great satisfaction to present to the National Assembly of People's Power this report on the achievements, difficulties, shortcomings and immediate perspectives of education in our country. Since the document was sent to you in advance you will by now have been able to verify how the changes introduced in the field of education over the past 22 years of revolutionary endeavor are amply and minutely recorded in it. My task now is to elaborate on its fundamental aspects, making reference also to the Ministry of Higher Education, which is an integral part of the National Education System.

It is truly a wide gap that separates our present educational development from what existed before the Revolution. Before 1959, education was conditioned by economic, cultural and social underdevelopment, and throughout the history of the neocolonial republic it was one of the sectors that showed the utter neglect and lack of attention with which it was regarded. Schools today, with their principals, teachers, students, administrative and service staffs, are genuine state institutions for learning and teaching. Under the direction of the Party and supported by the youth and mass organizations, they are fully integrated into the process of constructing a new socialist society, a society of which they are one of the main products.

The population census taken in 1953 revealed the deplorable conditions education was in at that time. Out of a population of 4.4 million people over ten years of age, 1 032 000 were totally illiterate — 23.6 percent of that population. A total of 547 000 children between six and 12 years of age were not enrolled in school, and school attendance of those that were enrolled averaged 60.8 percent.

Nowadays Cuba is one giant school: one out of every three inhabitants is studying. If we exclude children under six, the figure becomes one out of every two.

The average educational level of the population is 6th grade, and conditions now exist for raising that average by approximately one grade every three years.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's description of education before the Revolution in *History Will Absolve Me* is an impressive accusation:

"Our educational system is perfectly compatible with everything I've just mentioned. Where the peasant doesn't own the land, what need is there for agricultural schools? Where there is no industry, what need is there for technical and vocational schools? Everything follows the same absurd logic; if we don't have one thing we can't have the other. In any small European country there are more than 200 technical and vocational schools; in Cuba only six such schools exist and the graduates have no jobs for their skills. The little rural schoolhouses are attended by a mere half of the school-age children — barefooted, half-naked and undernourished — and frequently the teacher must buy necessary school materials from his own salary. Is this the way to make a nation great?"

The panorama presented by the old society in 1958 can be summarized in the following figures. Only 56.4 percent of the children were enrolled in elementary school, and just 88 000 teenagers attended intermediate level schools; 10 000 teachers were unemployed and the budget of the Ministry of Education amounted to just 79.4 million pesos (11 pesos per inhabitant). What actually went into education was substantially less since many millions found their way into the pockets of the corrupt politicians of the time.

But depressing as it was, that situation could not prevent Cuban public schools from always being a storehouse of the fighting history of our people, their heroes and the best cultural traditions of Cuba's nationality. The thoughts of prominent teachers of the last century — Varela, Luz Caballero and Mendive; the teachings of Martí; the unyielding rebelliousness of Frank País and Pepito Tey; these are some of the highest expressions of the patriotism of many Cuban educators who did their best to build better schools and a greater nation.

And today over 1.5 million children in that nation are attending elementary school and over 1 170 000 teenagers are enrolled in intermediate education; some 200 000 future professionals are being trained at university level; over 950 000 students in the various types and levels of education are reaping the benefits of boarding and semi-boarding schools; we now have over 210 000 educational workers, a political, ideological, scientific and technical force whose professional level is constantly rising. In this nation we have earmarked 1349 million pesos annually for educational expenses, equivalent to 138 pesos a year per inhabitant.

The Revolution inherited a centralized and corrupt educational administration, public schools that lacked everything, while the private schools were attended by the children of the privileged class, whose uniforms served to emphasize class divisions instead of identifying the type or level of education being received by children and young people.

The same evils also afflicted the universities. Enrollment there was structured to conform essentially to the interests of the bourgeoisie instead of to the needs of the country's development. For the sons and daughters of the working class, admission opportunities were practically nil. But historical tradition and prevailing objective conditions meant that the student body claimed the higher education centers as bases for agitation and struggle against corrupt politicians and against dictatorships like those of Machado and Batista, that shed so much of our people's blood.

Immediately after the triumph of the Revolution, profound changes began to be introduced in education. Examples of how the educational services were expanded in the first years were the creation of 10 000 new schools, particularly in the countryside; the conversion of army barracks into schools; and the nationalization of all private schools.

A shortage of teachers and professors was the greatest difficulty that educational development came up against in these years. But we always found revolutionary solutions. To bring education into the country's remotest areas, 3000 volunteer teachers signed up to go to the mountains and later set up the Frank País Vanguard Teachers' Brigade.

Launched in early 1961, the Ana Betancourt educational project was aimed at improving the cultural level of peasant women and helping them along the path to true liberation. Over 150 000 young girls from the mountains improved their school education and then were able to contribute to the transformation of our countryside and to take part in other tasks of the Revolution.

The Literacy Campaign, coming at the time of the great victory at Playa Giron, was another of the Cuban people's great achievements. Besides its huge educational value, it was also a key factor in the country's economic and social development. Its martyrs, Conrado Benítez (teacher), Manuel Ascunce Domenech (student-teacher) and Delfín San Cedr  (worker-teacher), all murdered by bandits in the Escambray Mountains, gave their lives to this epic endeavor.

The result of that battle was something priceless: a new principle, a concept of education which copes with it integrally, including its social aspects. This is summarized in one of our slogans: "Education is a task for us all."

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Literacy Campaign and it gives us great revolutionary pride that

other peoples of the world can benefit from the experience it gave us.

After the Campaign, a mass scholarship project was announced. The first group of scholarship holders was made up of 40 000 literacy teachers. Many of the rich mansions of the bourgeoisie who had fled the country were used for this huge project, and the residential suburbs of Havana and other cities were soon overflowing with the sons and daughters of workers and peasants.

All these measures contributed to meeting the basic educational needs of children and teenagers in urban and rural areas, without distinctions of sex, race, place of residence and economic level; and in spite of the legacy of past neglect, the Moncada program was quickly carried out.

As of 1961, day-care centers were established, open to children after their 45th day of life, providing care and education in a healthy and happy environment and enabling a growing number of women to start working and take active part in the life of the society. By March 1981 over 96 000 children were enrolled in 832 day-care centers, but for several reasons places available are still below demand.

From 1959 to 1974, elementary school enrollment figures showed a steady rise. In 1975 they began to drop as a consequence of a reduction in the number of students in grades below those normal for their age group, and later because of the lowering in the birthrate. The figure now is 1 592 000 students. Owing to the large number of those who have reached the 6th grade, starting in 1972 intermediate education began to grow steadily, and accordingly higher education enrollment figures went up too. Over the five-year period just ended (1976-80), intermediate education enrollment figures went from some 629 000 students to over 1 177 000.

Special educational programs for children and young people with physical and mental handicaps and behavior problems did not exist at all before the Revolution. This year they had an enrollment of 28 000 students. In spite of the increase registered in this branch over the last few years it is still not possible to meet all needs, especially those of minors with serious behavior problems who run the risk of getting worse if they are not given adequate treatment. Steps to solve this problem are being taken at present.

The adult education program has played a leading role in helping to increase the cultural level of our people. It was organized in the wake of the Literacy Campaign and has given more than 1 400 000 people a 6th-grade education, through the systematic effort of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, the other mass organizations and the Ministry of Education. Our workers have already started the Battle for the 9th Grade, and are resolutely determined to emerge victorious and make their contribution to the economic and social development of the country.

The Revolution has always paid attention to the training of teachers and professors. The various teacher training programs which existed up to 1976 have been combined in a national network of schools in charge of training teachers to work in schools, preschools, and special education and as school librarians. The higher pedagogical institutes train personnel for teaching the intermediate levels and the Institute of Educational Improvement for working people.

All elementary school teachers who started working without the required training have now graduated. This is a very important step towards the general improvement of the quality of teaching and education as a whole, and is in line with a resolution adopted at the 1st Congress of the Party.

We should mention the important role played by the Manuel Ascunce Domenech University Pedagogical Detachment, which made it possible for students to continue studying at a time when there was a big enrollment boom at the intermediate levels.

In his closing speech at the 2nd Congress of the Young Communist League (UJC), Comrade Fidel posed the need for Cuban youth to organize a movement of 10th-grade students who would be trained as professors, combining their studies with teaching activities. This would go down in educational history as an example of a revolutionary solution, which was carried out with enthusiasm and rigor. The UJC has played a very important role in all this.

There are now more than 162 000 students in the various teacher training institutes. Of these nearly 61 000 correspond to higher pedagogical institutes, whose enrollment was only 5000 some ten years ago.

Following the victory of the Revolution more than 151 000 teachers and professors have graduated and have been active protagonists in the drive for educational development. They have made it possible for us to make our internationalist contribution to sister nations: right now more than 3500 Cuban teachers and professors are fulfilling this lofty mission in Nicaragua, Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia and other parts of the world and by next September there will be 4500.

The training of skilled workers and intermediate technicians has also been given top priority.

In 1959 there were merely three dozen official institutions for technical and professional training, with an enrollment of 15 000 students. In this school year there are 403 institutions with an enrollment of 228 000 students. These figures include educational institutions which are under the jurisdiction of other state agencies and over which the Ministry of Education has methodological control.

To meet the needs of the national economy there are 110 careers for intermediate technicians and 125 for skilled workers, divided into 16 branches. The objective is to turn out specialists with a wide range of abilities.

The social and ideological factors existing prior to the Revolution which excluded women from nearly all technical professions have virtually disappeared. In the current school year, 45.7 percent of the student body, that is, more than 104 000 students, are women.

Since the victory of the Revolution more than 258 000 technicians and skilled workers have graduated from the National Education System, not to mention those of other agencies.

In many schools we have confronted problems in the training of students due to a lack of equipment, antiquated technology, shortage or lack of material for practical work and, in some cases, the lack of workshops. To all this we must add that many production or service enterprises have not offered students possibilities for on-the-job training.

All of these factors, together with the lack of technical bibliography and trained teachers, have adversely affected the academic level of many graduates. Resolution No. 356 of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers provides for the furnishing of these institutions

with the specialized materials they need and care and upkeep of such material by the corresponding agencies and local organs of People's Power. This has led to great improvements and we are pressing to see that it is fully implemented.

The victory of the Revolution laid the groundwork for the transformation of higher education. The 1962 university reform set guidelines of the highest importance for its development.

In the 1959-1960 academic year there were 28 university disciplines. Now there are 144 disciplines, in keeping with the needs of the economy, science and culture. Higher education students have been encouraged to participate in scientific and technical activity, research, and links between study and work, in accordance with the requirements of their professional training.

In 1959 there were three official universities. The national educational network now contains 39 institutions of higher learning, covering nearly all the provinces. Enrollment has increased from about 15 000 students to a present figure of nearly 200 000. Of this figure 51 percent are workers who are also studying. There are also more than 7000 Cuban students training in the socialist countries, some 6300 of them in the Soviet Union.

Now all children and young people who finish the 6th or 9th grade can be sure of going on to study at the different institutions that make up the national network. Nearly 16 000 children and young people from various countries, mainly Africans and Nicaraguans, are able to study in our country as an expression of Cuba's internationalist policy.

During the period 1976-80 the number of graduates from all institutions of the National Education System was as follows:

- 1 293 000 elementary school students, more than the total of such graduates in the first 16 years of the Revolution;
- 574 800 junior high school students, 7.2 times more than in the previous five-year period;
- 105 100 senior high school students, 4.4 times more than in the previous five-year period;
- 165 500 skilled workers and intermediate technicians, four times more than the previous five-year period;
- 67 400 elementary school teachers, 3.6 times more than in the previous five-year period;
- 755 000 adults achieving the 6th grade, 115 000 graduating from junior high schools and 45 000 from the worker-farmer university extension program;
- 25 500 junior high school teachers graduating from special part-time courses;
- 2473 physical education teachers;
- 62 562 graduates from institutions of higher education, including 23 800 teachers of intermediate education. This figure is 2.7 times more than the previous five-year period.

In the field of intermediate education the figures for the last five years are about equal to the total number of graduates from 1902 to 1975, not including the adults.

As can be seen, one of the biggest achievements of the last decade has been the flow of students through the National Education System. This has meant that during the 1976-80 period there has been a big change in the "educational pyramid" — the ratio between elementary, intermediate and higher education enrollment. In 1958, out of every 100 students, 88.7 were in elementary

school, 11 in intermediate education and 0.3 in higher education. Now the ratio is very different: 54 in elementary education, 40 in intermediate education and six in higher education. The pyramid is thus very similar to those of the developed countries.

The big increase in graduates from junior and senior high school made it possible to increase entry requirements from 6th to 9th grade for teacher training and schools training skilled workers and intermediate technicians, and from junior to senior high for higher pedagogical institutes. These measures will be very important in raising the academic standard of future professionals.

In order to help accomplish these aims, 1577 new educational institutions have been built in the last ten years at a cost of more than 1500 million pesos.

This whole process of educational development has been carried out amidst an intense class struggle characterized by direct confrontation with imperialism, its attacks, its economic blockade and its diversionary ideology.

The leading role taken by our glorious Communist Party in formulating and correctly implementing educational policy has facilitated these educational transformations and the work done by our people in education. The theses and resolutions adopted at the 1st and 2nd Party Congresses clearly stated the objectives, indications and guidelines which our schools are applying towards the communist upbringing of new generations.

The support of society as a whole for educational tasks, a factor of great importance, is reflected in the school itself; we see the influence of the Party, the UJC, the Trade Union of Workers in Education and Science, the José Martí Pioneer Organization, the Federation of Students of Intermediate Education and the Federation of University Students.

The school councils and parents' committees are important means for linking the educational institutions and day-care centers with the community. The family is represented in them, along with members of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, the Federation of Cuban Women, the National Association of Small Farmers and the unions. Their aim is to ensure that the schools and day-care centers fulfill their social responsibility.

Together with the extension of educational services there has been a substantial change in the role played by the school in the upbringing of children and young people. An important contribution towards this objective has been made by linking study and work. Steps towards this were first taken in 1962 in the mountains of the eastern part of the country and continued in Camagüey and other provinces until it became nationwide, with the implementation of the program known as the School Goes to the Countryside. Full realization of the idea of combining study and work was achieved with the schools in the countryside, conceived by Fidel and based on the application of this important pedagogical principle set forth by Marx and Martí.

Linking the school to society as a whole has been a constant concern of the Revolution. The students are directly influenced by the Revolution and whenever they have been called upon to carry out extraordinary tasks they have responded enthusiastically and conscientiously. A clear indication of how the children, adolescents and young people of Cuba think and act has been their incorporation into the difficult and complex tasks posed by the Revolution. Their participation in productive work

and internationalist tasks, their zealous mass participation in the March of the Fighting People, their integration into the Territorial Troop Militia in response to the threat of armed attack, are examples of the revolutionary feelings of our young people.

The intense work done in the educational field from the very start of the Revolution had its share of problems and shortcomings. However, the valuable pedagogical experiences which we were accumulating and the level of development reached laid the foundation for defining and facing up to the necessary changes.

The Congress on Education and Culture held in 1971 became a debate among Cuban educational personnel which shed light on their political and ideological awareness. It also posed the need for a profound study of the contents of education in order to resolve the incongruities in the curricula and programs, the lack of coordination, the fact that in some fields we were not keeping pace with the development of science and technology, the acute shortage of personnel and materials. Furthermore, the insufficient enrollment capacity in intermediate education, the problem of children who started school late or had to repeat grades. This led to a "bottleneck" in elementary school enrollment and underlined the urgent need to search for solutions to these problems.

Thus we had to revolutionize the very concepts of education. This led to the Plan for the Improvement of the Education System, whose objective was to make education conform to the society we are building, that is, provide the new generations with the appropriate political, intellectual, scientific, technical, physical, moral, aesthetic, polytechnical, work and patriotic-military training. We had to give the National Education System a scientific foundation in line with the methodological and organizational principles of socialist pedagogy.

The Plan's first stage was one of diagnosis and analysis, which revealed the lack of a coherent system of general education. There was a structure for dealing with the different educational levels but without a systematic concept. Elementary schools were supervised by a leadership which structured its activity vertically in relative interdependence with the junior high schools, and these, in turn, with the senior highs. We did not have the current concept of general polytechnical and labor education which covers elementary and intermediate levels and which now constitutes the core of the system.

Technical and professional education was also structured in a vertical manner with no links to general education, leading to incongruities in the contents of education.

Training of teachers was handled by various branches of the Ministry of Education and there were no links to the general education for which teachers were being prepared. A similar lack of coordination existed in other branches.

In order to solve these problems we had to improve the National Education System, focusing on integrity, interrelationships and links that determine its structure. It also had to ensure the harmony of objectives, content and methods along with continuity of education and the organization of teaching and educational work.

In general terms, the results of the initial stages of the Plan have been satisfactory. It has succeeded not only in introducing new curricula and textbooks and defining material needs, but has also come up with a new educational structure and a series of extracurricular activities

to confront this gigantic task. All this has contributed to increasing the students' educational level.

The 1st Congress of the Party approved and determined the objectives and scope of the Plan; it determined the social function of school, its guiding role; the need to strengthen educational work and to train and constantly improve the teacher's qualifications as a political and educational cadre in charge of introducing new plans, programs and textbooks.

We also worked out a plan for upgrading the teaching staff so that they would be acquainted with the educational programs and materials before they were applied. Various methods have been used to accomplish this, including seminars and classroom visits aimed at improving methodology.

In this complex task and the radical changes it implies, problems naturally arise as a result of the process of development and the objective and subjective conditions under which plans were elaborated and applied. Also involved is the struggle between the new and old.

The main problems and shortcomings in the implementation of the Plan have resulted from inadequate understanding of the new programs, incorrect use of educational methods and means, lack of materials, inadequate methodological training, and lack of rigor and a demanding attitude in applying evaluation norms.

We have taken the necessary measures to cope with all these problems, such as the recently concluded seminar for heads of departments and teachers of mathematics, physics and chemistry and guidelines for remedial work in Spanish, reading and math.

We have been aided in all this work by specialists from the USSR and the GDR, who have offered us their valuable experiences.

We must stress that this is a permanent process which will lead to new and more complex scientific and pedagogical tasks.

As a result of the institutional changes made from 1976 on, the new structure of leadership and administration in education on the municipal, provincial and national levels has helped consolidate plans for educational development all over the country and has led to substantial improvements. There has been notable progress in the field of inspection and methodological aid, as shown by the fact that from January 1977 to May 1981, the Ministry of Education alone carried out 978 inspection visits to provincial departments, 2576 to municipal departments and 23 420 to individual schools.

School organization is today accorded the priority it deserves as the basis for the work of the school and the decisive factor in the education of children and young people.

Efficient school organization means fulfillment of the schedule, daily and otherwise; fulfillment of norms for productive work; attendance and punctuality of leaders, teachers and professors, students and noneducational workers; taking full advantage of the workday; respecting social and individual property; observing standards of proper behavior and personal appearance; and maintaining proper relations between students and teachers within a framework of socialist morals.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION SERVES AS THE BASE FOR THE ENTIRE TEACHING ACTIVITY OF THE SCHOOL

There are institutions that have come a long way in this field and, as a whole, progress has been made. However, other centers continue to have problems and shortcomings, such as absences and lack of punctuality on the part of teachers and professors, which has an adverse effect on the students. This situation is particularly acute in rural areas.

In order to improve the quality of elementary schools we must establish both morning and afternoon sessions. Only 27 percent of all students are now attending two sessions a day and in some provinces, such as Las Tunas, Granma and Guantánamo, virtually none are. Given the gradual decline in elementary school enrollment, we will be able to gradually increase the number of students attending two sessions a day.

The basic organizational form of education is the classroom. It is here where the main objectives of the school programs and curricula are fulfilled. Results this year reflect progress over previous years, but are not 100 percent satisfactory since inspections have detected a number of deficiencies. Because of this we are strengthening methodological work and systematic control, because all classes must be good ones, increasing their level in accordance with our development.

An important element in the teaching and educational process is evaluation, which controls results and serves to guide its direction.

The evaluation system makes it possible to detect the educational problem in time so that teachers and students can adopt the necessary measures to prevent irreversible failures at the end of the school year. It is designed to anticipate the nonfulfillment of goals and any setbacks in learning, and it seeks to encourage the students and overcome their shortcomings.

The inspections made have shown that the evaluation system is not fully mastered in all cases and that its application does not always abide by the established norms. These difficulties are found at the various levels and subsystems. We found one example of this in the first two grades of elementary education, where some students were promoted without justification.

Upon completing 1st grade, all the students are supposed to move on to 2nd grade, along with their teachers. In 2nd grade, teachers should work with those who have shortcomings in order to bring them up to par with the rest of the class. No student should be promoted to 3rd grade unless he has mastered the objectives of the preceding grades. Promoting any student unable to read and write to 3rd or a higher grade constitutes a violation.

Investigations made showed that out of over 900 000 students in 3rd to 6th grades, a little over 28 000, or 2.9 percent, couldn't read or write. Today this figure has dropped by more than half, thanks to the steps taken to remedy such irregularities. Although the figure is not significant, to us one single student wrongly promoted merits special attention.

We are also working to remedy the poor preparation of senior high school graduates due, among other factors, to lack of correct study habits and academic discipline.

Promotion is the fundamental indicator of the efficiency of teaching and educational work. It should be the result of the proper organization of daily work, the sound application of the system of teaching principles, the systematic upgrading of the teaching staff, individual and collective study on the part of the students, an enthusiastic emulation program, rigorous educational work and close ties with all student, political and mass organizations.

Promotion should respond to systematic and serious work on the part of the teaching staff and it must necessarily become a struggle for quality. The goal is that all the students be promoted on the basis of mastering the required knowledge.

The goal of the school is that all the students get satisfactory results, as a consequence of good teaching and educational work. The teacher's dedicated and selfless efforts, the creation of a favorable environment for study and work, the careful attention to individual differences, the encouragement of every student and the maintaining of high standards are all fundamental aspects in achieving high rates of promotion. In no way can the application of evaluation norms imply concessions that conspire against academic rigor.

In our commander in chief's own words:

"Promotion is a very important question. No promotion can take place if the requirements have not been fulfilled. Now, when we speak about the quality of promotion, this does not by any means imply that the rate is unimportant. A promotion rate of 40, 50 or 60 percent is not good enough. Therefore, we must struggle for top promotion with top quality. That's our task, that's the slogan that sums it all up. I repeat, top with top."

Promotion rates obtained since 1975 are high and this is a big improvement over the results obtained during the 1960-1970 period. This is especially so if we consider the enrollment boom in intermediate education as of the 1975 school year and the requirement that students pass all subjects before going on to the next grade. Over the last five years the promotion rate has been stabilized, but we must take a more demanding attitude and pay greater attention to quality.

Likewise, prevention of dropouts is a concrete example of the results of the schools' work. In the 1959-69 period, retention rates were very low and although great progress was made in the period between 1970 and 1980, they are still not satisfactory. In the last few years of the preceding five-year period there was a slight drop in the intermediate level, affecting the enrollment rate in the 13-16 age group.

At the start of the 1980-81 school year, the rate for this age group was 79.8 percent, considering population estimates and official enrollment figures for each age group.

According to a study undertaken in February 1980 in cooperation with the State Committee for Statistics which covered 28 municipalities and 23 percent of the population in this age group, 92.5 percent of the young people were in school. However, we must await the results of the upcoming census to confirm this and determine the real magnitude of the problem.

Among the factors which cause dropouts are problems of a sociocultural nature, such as marriage at an early age, which affected some 11 000 students in the 1979-80 school year. Schools will win the battle against dropouts with efficient work and the backing of the school councils, political and mass organizations, the family and

society as a whole, and with the elimination of the socioeconomic and cultural factors which have an adverse effect on certain segments of the population.

Educational work can be characterized as a continuous process of shaping the personality of the child or young person. This is a complex task because it is not limited to the school alone. The home life, the example of the parents and teachers, the influence of fellow students, friends, radio and TV programs, cinema, activities of the student organizations and the community in general must form a single coherent, multifaceted system. That is why integral education work directed towards a common objective is so important; all pertinent social factors must come into play.

The school undoubtedly plays the key role in this series of factors. In every educational institution, educational work is carried out in the classroom, in the laboratory, in the workshops, in the cafeteria, the lounges, dormitories, as well as in political, ideological, productive, sports, recreational and cultural activities; that is, educational work is present in every aspect of student life.

Educational work also involves school organization: teaching itself; the work of political and ideological training; correct combination of study and work; vocational training and professional guidance; art education; physical education and sports; participation of the school in political and patriotic-military education, the teaching of Marxism-Leninism; norms of acceptable social conduct, an understanding of ethical values and establishment of a favorable climate for study and work.

Our goal is that educational work be adequately reflected in the upbringing of children and young people. We have made progress in this field but much still remains to be done in order to achieve satisfactory results in all educational institutions. In some cases this work is not accorded the importance it merits; each and every one of the factors is not always dealt with in an integral fashion and at times the work is done in an irregular, routine and superficial manner.

At boarding schools, where the student spends the major part of his time, educational work becomes even more important.

Notable progress has been made in these institutions during the course of this school year, but there are still schools which require great attention and help so that they can use school organization, control and high standards as tools for increasing the efficiency of their work.

It is clear that certain schools are deficient when it comes to instilling correct habits and standards of social conduct and developing a critical attitude towards wrongdoing. There have been ostensible changes and we are constantly strengthening pedagogical and political work and taking a demanding attitude in the schools and in educational leadership positions to eliminate negative conduct, some of which is rooted in the problems which confront society and which schools must help solve. However there are still losses and destruction of social property, lack of discipline and punctuality, late return after leaves, inadequate personal relations among students and between students and teachers, lack of correct habits of social conduct and inadequate hygiene.

Schools must undoubtedly give priority to the work of improving the students' social conduct and manners. We seek conscientious discipline, that is, that good conduct and behavior reflect the principles and standards of communist morality.

Discipline is not one more aspect of educational work but rather the result of its efficiency. Thus we stress improved educational work; every teacher and professor in every school must fulfill his or her educational role

and the work of teachers' collectives must be systematic, uniform and coherent.

Political and ideological training of the students is closely linked to the study and knowledge of Marxism-Leninism, now being systematically taught in the different branches of our educational system. We still don't have enough professors nor enough of the basic texts.

Political and ideological education goes hand in hand with patriotic and military education. Courses on technical-military training, which are being tried out in some schools, will be taught in all senior high schools in the coming school year.

Physical education and school sports, along with art and cultural education, are key factors in the shaping of a communist personality.

Achievements registered in the field of physical education and school sports are well known. However, numerous problems and shortcomings exist: students who skip classes, misuse of class time, inadequate participation in sports activity and, in some schools, the inadequate use, care and upkeep of sports facilities. Another problem is the lack of sports materials, chiefly in elementary schools and special education. The Ministry of Education and the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation are presently involved in projects to promote mass participation and improve the quality of the work being done in this field.

Progress has been made in art and cultural education in the different branches of the educational system, especially in elementary schools. With a view to overcoming existing problems and shortcomings with regard to professors, curricula and materials, the Ministries of Education and Culture have taken a series of measures that are reflected in a work plan of the next five years. Such measures reinforce the work that must be done by the school to improve the level of cultural activity.

The combination of study and work, a basic principle of Cuban education which has a decisive influence on our children and young people, has been favorably commented on at the two Party Congresses. The need to improve upon its application in the different branches of education has been stressed.

In elementary schools we now have nearly 600 vegetable gardens and more than 800 productive plots, in which more than 330 000 students are involved. The School Goes to the Countryside program still makes a notable contribution to the economy of the country, with large numbers of students at the intermediate level working on various crops. Problems and shortcomings which still exist in terms of organization and supply are being worked on by the various agencies involved, which are taking a more demanding attitude and striving to exert effective control.

The junior and senior high schools in the countryside supply the principal work force for certain citrus, tobacco, coffee and other harvests and the students' work has been satisfactory.

Absences and lack of punctuality, inadequate sanitary conditions and diet, nonfulfillment of norms, failure to clearly define tasks and shortages of materials are among the problems we are trying to solve.

The scientific-technical clubs, an effective means for vocational training, are being increasingly strengthened and now number more than 31 000. About 480 000 elementary and junior high school students participate in them, that is, a third of the students in those grades. As provided for in Decree 63 of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers, work is being done to increase participation in these clubs and raise their quality.

Inspections and reports by the Ministries of Education and Public Health indicate that hygienic and sanitary standards at schools have improved. Among the difficulties which still remain we should mention the serious problems related to the physical condition of some urban and rural centers, the lack of ventilation, illumination and water, inadequate preparation of food, malfunctioning and leaks in new schools caused mainly by faulty construction work and inadequate care and upkeep.

Together with the Ministry of Public Health we are working on a national student protection program for the 1981-83 period, which will be put into effect in the coming school year in coordination with the corresponding department of People's Power.

In some provinces there is a lack of school furniture. Efforts have been made to solve this problem by the start of the next school year.

In the last few years we have also had problems related to delays in the completion of schools and the search for and training of educational and service personnel — all of which affect the students.

The installation and use of laboratories and workshops, and the distribution, redistribution and use of textbooks are other fields with problems which we are working to solve.

We must mention the fact that the Ministry of Culture has made a great effort to have textbooks for the coming school year ready before June 30 so we can send them to the schools before classes start. This will solve a problem we have faced for years.

We should likewise mention the extraordinary work done by collectives of textbook authors. As a result of the increased need posed by the Improvement Plan, during the last few years more than 1000 new titles have been published, making a decisive influence in the development of current educational programs. The groups writing these materials are made up of representatives from the Academy of Sciences, institutions of higher learning, production and service institutions, teachers, professors and methodologists from the municipal, provincial and national levels, under the supervision of the Central Institute of Pedagogical Sciences.

One thing which has helped improve the quality of education is the stability of cadres, chiefly school principals. In order to cope with the sharp boom in intermediate education during the last ten years, we had to select more than 18 000 new leadership cadres. This gave rise to a lack of stability and technical cadres in the municipalities. In many cases methodologists and inspectors were sent to work at new institutions or those with insufficient leadership cadres, and thus had to neglect their previous responsibilities.

The Ministry of Education and the local organs of People's Power have worked to organize and develop the cadre pool and reserves, achieve better control, and undertake systematic evaluations and continuously upgrade personnel to achieve greater efficiency and better placement and promotion of teachers and administrative personnel.

The new system of promotions and graduated pay scale has constituted a step forward for educational workers in the recognition of their merits, while contributing to the stability of teachers, professors and other pedagogical cadres.

Our quantitative and qualitative achievements allow for constant and systematic increases in the quality of education and improvements in the work done by the school; indeed, they require us to struggle for them. Thus, we are continuing to develop the Improvement Plan in order to better the material and technical foundation

of education and intensify scientific and pedagogical activity.

Over the 1981-85 period enrollment in elementary school will continue to decline. Careful study will be given to the future development of the elementary school network, so that while not building schools with low enrollment we will be seeing to it that no child is without a school, no matter how remote the area where he or she lives. Surplus school capacity resulting from declining enrollment will be used to have more children attending two sessions daily, thus increasing the quality of teaching and education in general.

In order to further the overall training of students there will be an increase in physical education, labor studies and art education.

Junior high school enrollment has reached its peak and is expected to remain at its present level, or perhaps decline slightly, in the coming years. With the present installations, and those to be built in this five-year period, we will be able to keep pace and cope with future needs. The teachers we already have, plus those currently in training, will bring departments up to full strength.

We will continue transferring students, chiefly from the eastern provinces to other provinces, to see to it that they continue studying when they finish 6th grade and in order to involve the greatest possible number of students in the study-work program.

In the 1981-85 period some 848 000 students will finish 9th grade. Of these, 412 000 will continue studying in polytechnic schools or institutes and 300 000 in senior high schools; 136 000 will train for careers in education, public health and technical and professional fields. This enrollment structure fits in with existing capacity and the needs of the socioeconomic development of the country.

Senior high school education will continue developing. At least 11 senior high schools in the countryside will be finished in the 1981-85 period, and some junior highs will become senior highs, so that the majority of the students at this level will be participating in the study-work program.

The prevailing promotion and retention rates indicate that 226 000 young people will graduate from 12th grade. Some of these will go on to institutions of higher learning and some of those who don't will study to become intermediate technicians in schools for technical and professional training and in schools of other state agencies.

There are 230 000 students at present in technical and professional education and in the 1981-85 period 44 new polytechnic schools will be built with a capacity for 28 600 students. The number of graduates will come to 375 000 in this five-year period basically as a result of students who enroll with a 9th-grade education. This means the number of graduates will be 2.1 times greater than in the 1976-80 period. In order to improve the training of skilled workers and intermediate-level technicians we are working to better the material and technical foundation of the schools, finish construction work and install workshops and laboratories. These centers must be used efficiently and should be linked to industry.

The continuation of the studies started by the Central Planning Board and aimed at giving us detailed information about the need for skilled labor in the national economy is very important. Breakdowns both by region and by stage are necessary. Such information will make it possible for us to plan enrollment by careers and provinces appropriately, and make the necessary changes in school capacity.

There is a clear need to improve the training of elementary schoolteachers who received their training in systems existing prior to the present plan and need to be brought up to par with those now graduating from teacher training schools. There are more than 1000 teachers in two-year courses set up to cope with this problem, and in the future these studies will be an indispensable qualification. Teachers will also be able to obtain a university degree in elementary education. In the coming years teachers in intermediate education will be required to have a full university education.

In the field of adult education, following on the results obtained in the Battle for the 6th Grade, we will continue working along with the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions to ensure that most of those who have not already done so reach the 9th grade. Workers will have the opportunity of completing and improving their technical training in night courses and other special programs of technical and professional education.

It won't be easy to surpass many of the rates and qualitative levels reached in the last few years in terms of enrollment and number of graduates. However, in terms of qualitative improvement we have unlimited possibilities ahead of us.

Now more than ever before, we must take a more demanding attitude and be more efficient in our work. The struggle for quality is the main task of the Ministry of Education in a process that will always require the total mobilization of all forces, because every stage of development will pose greater requirements than the previous one.

Obviously, quality means increasing the scientific, pedagogical and political-ideological training of teaching staff and, in general, educational workers. That is, better work by all those in any way involved with the teaching and educational process. The focus of our work will be the drive for greater efficiency in all aspects of the system, both external and internal.

Efficiency in the internal aspects of the National Education System means cutting down on dropouts in all branches of education; seeing to it that the enrollment rate of young people over the age of 12 who are in school increases; stability and satisfactory flow of enrollment throughout the system; fulfillment of all norms which deal with optimum organization of education and teaching; permanent upgrading of leadership cadres; strengthening support work for the school done by the family, the community, agencies, social institutions and especially political and mass organizations, all of which are part of the school councils. There must be unwavering demands for the fulfillment of all educational objectives and the responsibilities which correspond to each and every person in this great task.

External efficiency has to do with turning out students who can continue their studies and become part of the production or service process with good skills and a full awareness of their responsibilities as workers and members of society; students with sound scientific training and ideological principles. That is, we must educate people whose knowledge, ability and attitude go hand in hand; people willing and able to serve their country wherever necessary, in line with their duty to it and the principles of proletarian internationalism.

The quality of education means better organization and teaching work, better educational work, more discipline, study and training.

Fidel has summed all this up as follows:

"In the coming years our efforts must focus on quality in all fields. Quality in the content of education and

teaching, quality in organization, quality in shaping personality and the awareness of students, quality in discipline and the fulfillment of duty for educational cadres, leaders, department chiefs, professors and all workers in education!"

Comrade deputies, we have presented a detailed report on the development of education, the achievements obtained, problems, shortcomings and the immediate outlook, and we also mentioned some of the measures which were taken to cope with the shortcomings and solve the problems.

Our Revolution allots huge sums of money to the development of education. There may be some material problems, which we will gradually solve, but the matters which we must solve right away and on which we are focusing our attention are subjective matters that depend on us and hamper the development of education. That is something we can solve and are duty bound to do so.

We realize that there is no room for concessions or tolerance in education. We strive to greatly increase the level and quality of education and teaching in all fields. The drive for a demanding attitude and efficiency is the core of our work.

In order to accomplish all this, we count on the wise leadership of the Party, the resolute efforts of the organs of People's Power, the firm and enthusiastic backing of

the Trade Union of Workers in Education and Science and the participation of youth and mass organizations.

Our teachers and students are aware of the fundamental tasks they face: production and defense. In education, production means greater quality, discipline and efficiency in work at school; defense means an alert and intransigent stand in the face of the threats, provocations and diversionary maneuvers of the enemy. It also means taking up arms if necessary.

In our advance we are inspired by our people's highest values; their traditions of struggle, unyielding stand in the face of the enemy; their fighting spirit, patriotism, dedication, internationalist spirit and sacrifice. These values are present in the teachers and they are based on the will to work tirelessly with Marti's concept that the best way to say is to do.

We are convinced that "education is the most powerful weapon available to mankind in order to create an ethic and a conscience, to create a sense of duty, organization and discipline, a sense of responsibility."

In all this noble effort, Fidel's teachings guide and inspire our revolutionary pedagogical development in its drive to obtain the supreme objective: the communist upbringing of the new generations.

CSO: 3020/130

LEFTIST PARTY HITS RULING PARTY FOR CRITICISM OF GRENADA

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 24 Jul 81 p 11

[Text]

THE ruling Freedom Party of Dominica has run into criticism at home for its recent attack on the policies of the Grenada Government, according to a report from the island.

The leftist Dominica Liberation Movement Alliance (DLMA) has reportedly accused the Freedom Party of attacking Grenada's government in — 'a clever attempt' — to divert citizens' attention from Dominica's "socio-economic crisis."

What moral authority does the Freedom Party have to question the enjoyment of human rights and freedoms in another country, when it has effectively conspired to stifle real opposition in Parliament? the DLMA was quoted as saying.

According to the report, the DLMA feels that instead of questioning the enjoyment of human rights in another country the ruling party would better use its time in formulating a strategy to cope with the socio-economic problems at home.

Dominica Freedom Party had said that it found the human rights situation in Grenada offensive and called for free and fair elections at the earliest possible time.

Soon after this criticism, which has echoed in an editorial of the Dominica 'New Chronicle' newspaper, Grenada's Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard came out with a strongly worded warning to those who would interfere in 'Grenada's business.'

CSO: 3025/188

CHARLES OUTLINES PLAN TO REVIVE AILING ECONOMY, EMPLOYMENT

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 24 Jul 81 p 9

[Article by Peter Richards]

[Text] ROSEAU, Dominica, Thursday, (CANA) — Prospects for reviving the ailing economy and cutting unemployment, were outlined here on Tuesday night by the ruling Dominica Freedom Party, on the eve of the start of its second year in power.

The party won a landslide victory at the polls on July 21, 1980, winning 17 of the 21 seats at stake and Tuesday night held a public meeting just outside Government Headquarters to bring the nation up to date on plans for the future.

Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, in a 35-minute presentation, said that her party was well on the way to bringing about a revival of the economy and providing jobs for the many unemployed people in the country.

Miss Charles said every effort was being made to ensure the survival of the main revenue earner, the banana industry, and called on every Dominican to play his part.

"It is time for all of us to realise how important bananas are and as a result we must make sure that we are able to do our part in making sure we supply good bananas for the market, so we can get the best possible price", she said.

She called on banana growers not to try to pass for export fruit that they themselves know is not good for shipment, because this causes the price of the bananas to go down.

Miss Charles defended her Government's decision to sign a \$37 million loan agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for economic assistance.

"If we had not gone into the agreement with the IMF we would have had to shut down the country, because there was no money to run it", she said.

"There was no month that we have recovered enough revenue, not one month we collected enough to pay our expenses... we would have had no money at all and therefore we had to find a way of keeping the country open", she said.

Her remarks about the IMF loan came on the eve of a meeting here yesterday between trade union officials and members of the private sector to discuss the loan conditions and their implications.

On Tuesday one trade union here expressed concern about an IMF condition that wage hikes be kept at 10 per cent called on Government to cancel the IMF deal and re-negotiate the entire package with easier terms.

But Miss Charles said: "There is nothing the IMF asked us to do that we did not know we had to do... if you want survival you have to take the steps that will make you survive... we could not have existed without it".

She said had the IMF not come to Dominica's assistance there would be no money available for paying public servants.

"No one can live without getting paid; no one can continue to exist and for this reason we decided we have to take the drastic steps and enter into an agreement with IMF", Miss Charles told the large crowd which braved heavy intermittent showers.

The Prime Minister said that on taking up office, she had

found on the statute books provision for the establishment of an Industrial Development Corporation to provide jobs for Dominicans, but it had not been set up.

She said Government would soon rename the agency the National Development Corporation, giving it wider powers, "and through them we hope to be able to get the employment during the course of the next 12 months that we want so badly for Dominica".

She said that the British Government was providing consultancy aid to NDC, and that two Dominicans would soon pursue studies under the United Nations Industrial Development Programme.

On Tuesday, Miss Charles signed an agreement with the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to undertake a study on the marketing of Dominica ornamental plants, such study she said would allow Dominica to identify markets for the plants, as well as to know "how much money we can get from it".

On future projects, Miss Charles said that she has been having discussions with a Trinidad and Tobago company on the possibility of marketing Dominican produce in Barbados, Antigua and Trinidad.

"This is a plan they are looking into for us... and they are going to make a company", she said, noting that Dominica would also be involved in the company.

Miss Charles also outlined Dominica's plans for going into the production of fresh water fish, which she said could bring in some revenue.

COARD THREATENS RETALIATION FOR MEDDLING IN GRENADA

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada, Monday, (CANA) — Grenada will take a firm line against anyone who meddles in its internal affairs, Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard has said.

"The moment you interfere in our business, it is a two-way street after that," he told Grenadian youths. "If you interfere in Grenada's business, after that it is open season and you get what you get."

Coard, who is also Finance Minister, was reacting to what the Government-owned Radio Free Grenada called "recent attacks on the Grenada revolution by various governments."

Coard did not pinpoint which governments had angered Grenada's left-leaning rulers, who came to power in a March 1979 revolution, toppling right-wing Prime Minister Eric Gairy.

But the latest volley came from Dominica's ruling Freedom Party which called for the "early" General Elections the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) here had

promised when it toppled the Gairy regime.

New Zealand too had earlier blasted Grenada, describing the Government as being unashamedly Marxist.

At yesterday's opening of a youth camp organised by the ruling New Jewel Movement (NJM), Coard said Grenada believed in the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

Nobody can interfere in Grenada's affairs and expect that the PRG will not retaliate, he said.

From the early days of the revolution, the PRG had said it would not interfere with any other government, he told youths, who will be at camps scattered across the island with such named as "Steve Biko" (murdered black African freedom fighter), Walter Rodney (assassinated Guyanese opposition politician) and Che Guevara (Cuban revolutionary).

"Anybody who interferes in Grenada's business will have to feel the weight of the Grenada revolution," he said.

CSO: 3025/190

ASSOCIATION'S REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH BISHOP REJECTED

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 23 Jul 81 pp 1, 14

[Text] St. Geroges, Grenada, July 22 (CANA):

The Grenadian government today said it has rejected a request from the Caribbean Publishing and Broadcasting Association (CPBA) for a meeting with Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, to discuss alleged press freedom abuses here.

The CPBA, a regional grouping of media executives, last week said it wanted to meet Bishop to talk about the Grenada governments recent closure of a new independent newspaper, the GRENADIAN VOICE, and travel restrictions placed on journalist Alister Hughes.

The VOICE was closed down June 19 after its initial printing, with government accusing it of working with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) against Grenada. Hughes, who was linked with the paper, was subsequently prevented from leaving Grenada, on the grounds that his income tax record was being investigated.

In a statement today, Government here said no useful purpose would be served by a meeting between the Prime Minister and the CPBA, described as "an unholy alliance of regional media magnates.

Said the statement: "the Peoples Revolutionary Government of Grenada views the recent attack on our revolution by the Caribbean Publishers and Broadcasters Association, that unholy alliance of regional media magnates, as a predictable response from a corporate group opposed to a genuinely free people's mass media in the Caribbean.

"By claiming that closure of the illegal, GRENADIAN VOICE violates freedom of expression in our country it attacks the PRG for acting on behalf of the vast majority of our countrymen, who recognise the GRENADIAN VOICE for what it was-- another CIA attempt to undermine the Grenada revolution.

"The PRG has no intention of stopping the right of movement of Alister Hughes or any other Grenadian, as long as they abide by the law, pay their taxes and not work with the CIA or other destabilising agencies and forces.

"The GRENADIAN VOICE was not set up as a medium through which the working people, the youth, women, students, farmers and fishermen of our country could express themselves freely.

"It was established to disseminate the views and ideas of a minority of big businessmen, planter and reactionary lawyers with links to the CIA, not to the broad masses of Grenadians. Theirs is not the voice of the people. Theirs is the voice of unpatriotic elements opposed to peace and social progress and bent on giving full support to the CIA plan of turning back our people's revolution.

"The request by CPBA president Oliver Clarke, managing director of the infamous Jamaica DAILY GLEANER (which played a key role in the downfall (October 1980) of Michael Manley's government) to meet with Prime Minister Bishop "to discuss these issues with a view to possible solution" is arrogant, hypocritical, ironic and contemptible."

"No useful purpose can be served by such a meeting. It is the height of arrogance and hypocrisy for Oliver Clarke to use his GLEANER and his CPBA to write libellous editorials and to mount unwarranted attacks on the PRG and then call for a meeting. As far as the PRG is concerned the issues in this case have already been solved.

"What power has this CPBA arrogated to itself that it can so boldly interfere in Grenada's internal affairs? The people of the Caribbean have given them no such mandate. Any why have they remained silent when other Caribbean governments are imposing strict press censorship and victimising progressive journalists.

"It is indeed ironic, if not laughable, that after calling on the Inter-American Human Rights Commission to investigate the state of human rights in Grenada and on Caribbean governments to isolate Grenada by severing relations, Clarke and his cohorts now seek an audience with Prime Minister Bishop.

"The people of the Caribbean should be informed that Oliver Clarke is not only president of the CPBA, but also a vice president of the Inter-American Press Association, a conglomeration of right-wing, anti-democratic newspapers with close ties to the CIA.

"Let it also be known that this same association worked assiduously to overthrow the democratically-elected Chilean government of Salvador Allende and put in its place the brutal, fascist Pinochet dictatorship, which today consistently violates all the human rights that the Chilean people should enjoy."

CSO: 3025/190

BRIEFS

JOURNALIST'S DEPORTATION--St. Georges--(Grenada Press)--The Media Workers Association of Free Grenada (MWAFG), which represents the vast majority of newspaper, radio and television workers on the island, has strongly condemned the 'unwarranted and unjustified deportation' from St. Vincent last week of journalist, Earl Bousquet, a member of the association. On Wednesday, July 22, Bousquet travelled to St. Vincent from Saint Lucia, on an assignment to cover the St. Vincent budget debate which was taking place that day, for the FREE WEST INDIAN newspaper, where he is employed. But he was told by the St. Vincent airport authorities that he could not enter the country. No valid reasons were given, and despite his peaceful protest, he was told that he would be deported on the next plane to Saint Lucia. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 29 Jul 81 p 5]

CSO: 3025/194

OPPOSITION PRESS GETS LIMITED NEWSPRINT FROM GOVERNMENT

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 22 Jul 81 p 5

[Text] Georgetown, Tues., (Cana):

The Opposition-linked MIRROR newspaper, starved for newsprint for nearly two years now, is receiving two rolls per week from the State-owned Guyana National Newspapers Limited.

MIRROR said it was "a partial victory" for the campaign against what it claimed was a government squeeze on newsprint supplies.

The government had previously explained that supplies of newsprint were severely limited because of foreign exchange difficulties.

MIRROR said it is being charged \$13,000 per short ton or \$6.50 per pound, compared with what it said had been \$2,800 per short ton or \$1.40 pound it paid to the government company two years ago.

It added that the two rolls per week would be just sufficient to continue its four-page edition weekly, which was a far cry from the evening edition and expanded Sunday edition it published two years ago when it received newsprint.

Meanwhile, another private newspaper, the weekly CATHOLIC STANDARD is also likely to receive printing material from a government agency.

This was told to Cana by a government spokesman who said that the STANDARD approached the agency and received a positive response a few weeks ago.

This was however not reported in the STANDARD edition yesterday, when it said that it continued to be printed on leftovers of newsprint sold by the pound by the government printery on a week by week basis.

The STANDARD reported also that the trade ministry had turned down its application for a licence to import 600 reams of bond paper, which was being made available as a gift by the Pope's representative in the Caribbean, and no explanation was given.

It claimed that there was a continuing policy to muzzle the Press in Guyana, but the government spokesman said that in light of the positive response "which the STANDARD received, and the arrangements for MIRROR to secure newsprint,--it cannot be argued that the government is seeking to have opposition voices silenced in Guyana."

CSO: 3025/191

PACT WITH UNION TO COST \$23 MILLION IN PUBLIC SECTOR

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 28 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] The interim agreement reached between the Government and the Guyana Trades Union Congress will cost at least another \$23 million in the Public Sector and Public Service alone.

This estimate does not include the additional money it would cost Guymine and Guysuco and certain identified skill categories mentioned in the pay relief agreement.

The amount is made up of \$10 million for the Guystac group of companies and corporations and the rest for the Public Service, according to initial calculations worked out yesterday.

A top Guystac spokesman and a Ministry of Finance official gave the figures based on the terms of the agreement announced over the week-end.

It was pointed out, however, that guidelines for the application of the agreement are expected to be issued by the Ministry of Economic Planning and Finance before authorisation for the payout is given.

Depending on how soon the guidelines are issued, the payout could begin in the Guystac group in the latter part of next month, the Public Sector spokesman said.

The Public Service spokesman who calculated the figure for that category of workers based on the last approved wages bill of \$194 million for 1981, was not in a position to say how soon the payment could be made.

Official notification of the agreement is to be sent to Ministries and Corporations immediately pending the issuing of the guidelines.

The release on the agreement said seven per cent of the basic pay rate as at December 31, 1980, effective January 1, 1981 to June 30, 1981 would be paid to Public Service and Public Sector employees.

But Guymine and Guysuco employees, as well as other identified skill categories within the traditional Public Service will be paid 10 per cent increase on the basic rate for the same period.

It was also agreed that workers within the Public Service and Public Sector will receive 10 per cent increase on their basic pay rate at December 31, 1980, effective July 1, 1981 while Guysuco, Guymine and the other identified skill categories within the traditional Public Service will be paid 12 1/2 per cent effective from July 1, 1981 on the basic pay rate at December 31, 1980.

Negotiations on the final wages package are to resume at a mutually agreed time.

CSO: 3025/191

BRIEFS

COPRA INCOME RISE--Copra producers in Guyana will now get 55 cents per pound for their produce. This means an increase of 12.5 cents per pound for first grade copra. The new price was announced by President Forbes Burnham to farmers in the Essequibo Coast and Pomeroon during a face the community meeting at Charity yesterday. Producers will receive 55 cents per pound for A Grade copra, 51 cents for second grade and 40 cents per pound for third grade copra. The previous price for first grade copra had been 42.5 cents per pound for a number of years. Despite a petition by farmers for higher prices for cassava, President Burnham refused to up the price of 11 cents per pound, because, he said, there was not sufficient quantity of cassava produced to justify the inflationary effect if a higher price was introduced. The President told the farmers that while the Government believed that farmers should get a reasonable price for their produce, the reasonable price had to be a question of bargaining and discussions between the two parties. [Excerpt] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 21 Jul 81 p 1]

GOLD, DIAMOND PRODUCTION--The country's gold production for the first six months of 1981 has reached a value of \$8,249,744.73, while production for the first quarter was valued at \$4,129,962.20. Figures for April, May and June this year showed a production value of \$4,119,782.53 which almost doubles the corresponding period last year. Second quarter production last year totalled \$2,194,226.67. The production of gold for the second quarter of 1981 showed an increase of 58,973 kilograms over the production for the same period last year. During this period, production in the Mazaruni mining district reached 69,112 kilograms compared with 33,469 last year. And figures for diamond production for the first six months this year totalled about 4,245 metric carats, representing a value of \$620,100. This output reflects an increase of 1,449 metric carats valuing \$217,235. The output of diamonds for the second quarter of this year reached a total value of \$324,000 for 2,218 metric carats. For the month of June, diamond production was about 686 metric carats with an approximate value of \$100,200. [Excerpts] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 23 Jul 81 p 20]

TECHNOLOGY SURVEY--More than sixty local manufacturing and engineering firms are involved in a countrywide survey aimed at assessing local engineering capability. The survey which is being conducted by the Technology Transfer [Policy] Unit [TTU] is to lay emphasis on the generation of production technology--tools, spare parts and components. According to TTU's Scientific Officer, the survey--covering the public, private and operative sectors--is an attempt to quantify the degree of foreign dependencies of our engineering services and to assess the

potential of reducing this dependence through the utilisation of local skills and raw materials.

Manufacturers are to indicate why indigenous materials are not utilised to a greater extent in cases where there is the potential to do so. In addition the survey is expected to help in the documentation of the relationships existing between local organisations and foreign agencies in terms of patent, licensing, designing, "turnkeys" and related agencies. It is also to be accompanied by an examination of the services available for engineering firms and consultancies. The Technology Transfer (Policy) Unit sees the survey as part of the total process of continuous technology assessment--a feature which is of importance if Third World economies are to be kept buoyant through export promotion and import substitution. (GNA)

CS0: 3025/191

SHEARER ANSWERS MANLEY QWERIES ON TIES WITH CHILE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 30 Jul 81 p 19

[Text] The Government of Jamaica is not considering accrediting any representative to the present government of Chile, nor accepting the accreditation of any representative from the present government of Chile to Jamaica. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer stated this in the house of Representatives Tuesday in response to questions tabled by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Michael Manley.

The question and answers follows:

Q.: Is the Minister of Foreign Affairs aware that following the coup d'etat in an and subsequent elimination of the democratic leadership of Chile, workers' rights in particular and human rights in general are suppressed by the Government of Chile?

Reply: Yes Sir. It is so reported.

Q: Is the Minister of Foreign Affairs aware that a meeting recently took place between the Minister of Youth and Community Development and a representative of the Chilean Government?

Reply: No Sir, I am aware that on June 5, 1981, Mr. Gustavo Benko, President of the Chilean Olympic Committee paid a courtesy call on the Minister of Youth and Community Development. Mr. Benko was not received in the capacity of a representative of the Chilean Government.

Q: Will the Minister of Foreign Affairs state the policy of the Government towards accepting technical, economic or cultural assistance from the Government of Chile?

Reply: It is the policy of the Government not to accept bilateral technical, economic or cultural assistance from the present Government of Chile.

Q: Will the Minister of Foreign Affairs state whether the Government intends to accredit any diplomatic or other representative to the Government of Chile or whether it intends to accept any diplomatic or other representative of the Government of Chile to the Government of Jamaica?

Reply: The Government is not considering accrediting any representative from the present Govern-

ment of Chile nor accepting the accreditation of any representative from the present Government of Chile to the Government of Jamaica.

Q: Will the Minister of Foreign Affairs give the House the assurance that there will be no accreditation of representatives between Jamaica and Chile at this time and that Jamaica will accept no aid from that country at this time?

Reply: These assurances were explicitly given to the House on June 9 when I spoke in the Budget Debate.

Mr. Manley asked a supplementary question as to whether the Minister accepted the importance of the distinction between common membership in organisations such as the OAS and the U.N. and the situation where a government receives bilateral aid from a particular country if the Minister admitted and recognised the importance of that distinction.

The Minister said that the government acknowledged the difference between membership in an international organization and bilateral relations.

SHARP DROP IN EXPORTS; 1981 LOOMS AS WORST YEAR EVER

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 22 Jul 81 pp 1, 17

[Text]

Grave concern at a drop in exports of 7.8 per cent in the first five months of 1981 was expressed yesterday by the Jamaica Exporters' Association.

Commenting on the decline, Mr. Prakash Vaswani, JEA president, predicted that exports for 1981 will likely drop by at least five per cent, the first decline Jamaica's exports have shown since 1976.

"This year is shaping up as the worst for export performance we have experienced since early in the 70s", Mr. Vaswani said. "Even in 1980, one of the worst years for exports, we were able to record an increase of more than 20 per cent. We have maintained that sort of performance since 1976. The association is gravely concerned by the trend and feels it is a reflection of policies being implemented which are acting as disincentives to increased export performance."

"At a time when it is claimed that priorities have been given to exports, the Jamaica Export Credit Insurance Corporation has increased interest rates charged to exporters from 6 per cent to 14 per cent in a mere two months. We have been advised that an export tax of \$10 per entry will be charged arbitrarily from August 1, 1981, on all shipments to the Caricom market. We fail to understand how exports can be expected to increase when they are being made subject to special taxation," Mr. Vaswani said.

Mr. Vaswani said it would be wise for Government to re-examine its policies with regard to exports. "Despite repeated assurances that the need for measures to encourage exports is recognized, we note that disincentives to performance have not been removed although they have been clearly identified in the National Export Plan. It is being stated repeatedly that exporters are receiving special consideration and priorities, but this is not in fact the case."

"Exporters are facing the same old problems of licence difficulties and inability to get needed foreign exchange for local production. We note with considerable interest the statement by the Hon. Douglas Vaz, Minister of Industry and Commerce, that money and export licences are available for the purchase of raw material. We are very happy about this development and are calling on all of our members to submit licences to the Trade Administrator with copies of their applications to the Association," Mr. Vaswani said.

"We know that money now offered under the Export Development Fund is being made available to exporters, but it should be recognized that the majority of exporters also require raw materials for the local production without which they are unable to compete competitively in the export market. The

[Editor's Note: Kingston's THE DAILY GLEANER of 31 July 1981, on pages 1 and 27, carries a statement issued the previous day by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Hugh Shearer on the question of Jamaica's foreign exports. In its introduction to the lengthy statement, the paper says that Shearer "described as misleading a statement by the president of the Jamaica Exporters Association, Mr. Prakash Vaswani, in which he had claimed a drop of 7.8 percent in exports in the first five months of this year. A statement issued by Mr. Shearer yesterday said that the true position was that there had been an increase in total exports to all destinations, though there was a decline in exports to CARICOM."]

VAZ: MANUFACTURERS IN \$148 MILLION EXPANSION PROGRAM

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 31 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

EXPANSION INVESTMENTS
TOTALLING MORE THAN
\$148 MILLION are being undertaken by a number of local manufacturing companies the Minister of Industry and Commerce, the Hon. Douglas Vaz, said in an address to the Jamaica/Mexico Businessmen's Committee on Monday. These were significant development, involving established local investors, he emphasised.

He said among these new investments in expansion were: West Indies Glass, \$30 Million; Thermo-Plastics Limited, \$2 million; Jamaica Broilers, \$9.05 million; West Indies Synthetics, \$5.2 million; Jamaica Transformer Limited, \$1 million; CM Associates and Jamaica Craft Prints \$1.2 million, Carib Cement Company, \$90 million; Desones and Geddes Limited, \$4 million; Henkel Chemicals, \$1 million; Jamaica Gypsum and Quarries, and Paul Blum and Company of Buffalo, USA, \$1 million; Master Blend Feeds, \$4 mil-

lion; J. Wray and Nephew Limited, \$4 million; National Processors, \$1.5 million.

Mr. Vaz paid tribute to the Jamaican investors, who he said, had been making significant efforts to either get involve in new production, or to expand existing facilities during the past eight months.

He said that there had been significant activity related to new investments from abroad, and he told the Mexican businessmen that while they were being invited to invest here, he was sure that they also had an interest in the extent to which local business was participating in the Government's economic restoration plan.

The Minister said there had been re-starts in many businesses, and whereas six months ago the Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation had several empty factories, all were now back in production and a major building programme was in progress, to accommodate new investors.

Mr. Vaz said that in the construction industry, the key element in the restoration of the economy, many projects which had been shelved were now re-activated, new projects has started, and many were now being designed, both in the Private and in the Public sectors.

CSO: 3025/192

SEAGA ANNOUNCES \$45 MILLION AID PLAN FOR FARMERS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Aug 81 p 1

[Text]

A MAJOR LOAN PROGRAMME through which \$45-million of new credit is to be made available was announced yesterday by Prime Minister Edward Seaga as the Government's Independence Day 'presentation' to the small farmers of Jamaica.

Mr. Seaga made the announcement as he addressed the mammoth crowd at the final day of the 1981 Denbigh Show. He said the loan was now in the process of being negotiated and would be "somewhat different" from earlier loan programmes to farmers.

Mr. Seaga told his audience, which included large and small farmers, that the loan would be made available to farmers having holdings of between 2 and 10 acres, and would come on stream "somewhere towards the end of this year or in the beginning of next year". The crops to be planted would be based on a strict system of zoning, which would be laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, and a map showing crop production zones was being drawn up.

Before he made the announcement, the Prime Minister said he had pleasure "in telling you that the Agricultural Development Bank is now established". It would, he said, deal with such funds as remain under the Self-Supporting Small Farmers' Scheme, which had been going on for many years and was now drawing to a close.

Partly because the Government was aware that that scheme was 'drawing to a close' it took steps to negotiate the new loan of \$45 million for the small-farm agricultural sector, Mr. Seaga said.

"This is going to provide a tremendous injection of new credit into the system — new loans for you to be able

to borrow, so that you can continue to produce and to increase production", he said.

Earlier, he recalled that only recently a sum of \$6 million had been provided in a revolving loan to finance crop lien to farmers.

But as he announced the \$45 million of new credit, Mr. Seaga issued a note of warning: farmers would have to understand that the loan must be properly serviced and repaid.

"There is no future for you or for the country if when farmers borrow money they don't repay it. If they don't repay it, it means that the institution from which we have borrowed the money will say to us, 'since you cannot get repayment, we cannot lend you anything more.'

And the only thing that you will get away with is the single time that you shot the Government or the single time that the Government finds itself in a position that it cannot honour its own obligations."

Mr. Seaga noted that there was a sum of \$41 million of outstanding debt owing by farmers; and that the Jamaica Development Bank which was set up to finance Agriculture had become a bankrupt organisation. "Had that money been collected, it would be available now to help another set or even the same farmers again: but it is not."

He said the \$45 million of new credit would not become available at one time in one year, and when it became available, "if the debts are not properly serviced, then I can tell you it is the last money that Jamaica will get for agricultural support to the small farming sector."

Farmers should be reminded, he said, that the small farming sector was

heavily dependent on Government to find money to lend it, because, unlike the bigger farmers who could go to the commercial banks, they could not obtain loans from that source.

So far as the provision on crop zoning was concerned, the Prime Minister said the money would not be made avail-

able to farmers to "plant what they want". Crops would be determined by a system of crop-zoning "so that farmers would be assisted to plant the right crops in the right soil at the right time." If other farmers wished to plant other crops, they could do so, but not with Government financial assistance, he emphasized.

CSO: 3025/192

BRIEFS

BAUXITE EARNINGS--Government revenue from the bauxite-alumina companies amounted to U.S.\$205.85 million in 1980--as against U.S.\$194 million in 1979. The bauxite production levy yielded almost U.S.\$202.6 million payable to the Capital Development Fund against which income tax of U.S.\$41.6 million (payable to the Consolidated Fund) was offset. Royalty was U.S.\$3.26 million. A release from the Jamaica Bauxite Institute further said: "An average price of U.S.\$75.18 cents per pound for aluminum ingot was realised last year by the four major North American aluminum companies will bauxite-alumina operations in Jamaica--Alcan, Alcoa, Kaiser and Reynolds. [as published] "On the basis of the average realised price, a levy of U.S.\$20.75 per long ton of bauxite was the yield to the Jamaican government. This figure was fractionally more than U.S.\$20.54 which had been forecast by the Jamaica Bauxite Institute. As a consequence of the slight increase of actual over-projected price as well as 1980's increased bauxite production, provisional levy payments for the year fell short of what was due. With the calculations now complete, additional payments by the companies are due to the government to close last year's books. Based on JBI's recommendation, the gazetted ingot price on which the levy is being calculated this year is US 78 cents per pound. In the first quarter of this year, the actual average price realised by the four majors was US 76.5 cents notwithstanding listings on the aluminum merchant market as low as U.S.60 cents a pound." [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Jul 81 p 1]

WEST GERMAN LOAN--Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga, on Friday signed a general commodity aid agreement for \$7,131,250 (10 million deutsche marks) with the Federal Republic of Germany, to provide foreign exchange to pay for Jamaican imports from West Germany. Signing for the West German Government, at the Jamaica House ceremony, was Dr. Karl Leuteritz, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany. The terms and conditions of the loan stipulate that only West German goods and services are to be purchased. The items include, industrial raw materials, industrial equipment and agricultural machinery, spare parts and accessories of all kinds, chemical products and advisory services. The loan carries an interest rate of 4.5 per cent per annum. The principal is repayable in 30 equal semi-annual instalments, the first of which is due on December 31, 1986, and the last on December 31, 2001. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Aug 81 p 1]

PAPER WARNS AGAINST IMPERIALIST PLOT IN AREA

PA071920 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 3 Aug 81 pp 1, 14

[Editorial: "Aggression on the Move, and Patriotic Unity"]

[Text] The U.S. Senate's sudden ratification of the treaty that wickedly seeks to distribute chunks of our sovereignty as if that were some sort of expansionist "pinata," the "unexpected" accident that put an end to Omar Torrijos' life, its antecedent in Ecuador, the climate created by fictitious attacks by Nicaragua and real provocations by Honduras, and the experiment apparently underway in Grenada, leave us no doubt that efforts are being made to lay a cordon around revolutionary Nicaragua.

While the hypocritical masks of the Afghanistan affair fall off in Gambia and imperialism announces in plain language its increasing intervention in El Salvador, efforts are being made to hem in, suffocate, attack and cut off Nicaragua because it has committed what the most reactionary clique in the north and its native figureheads here regard as a terrible crime: not bowing to its dictates and not allowing our destiny, our resources and our culture to remain tied down to the empire.

Our people, who each day become more aware of the freedom achieved, must promote patriotic unity with great vigor in order to defend that freedom.

And those who still hesitate or feel confused, must know that the moment is nearing when they will have to make a clear decision on behalf of their class and their fatherland.

Let nobody be deceived by the siren songs of local reactionaries. Counter-revolution will never have forces of its own. It depends on whatever the Honduran Army or imperialist intervention can do for it.

They dream about the only army that it is feasible for them to reconstruct: the genocidal Somozist guard.

It would be good if those hesitant and confused elements realized that the desire for revenge by those who have been displaced and are protected by that criminal guard will know no limit in its rage against the people. They are already saying in their private parties that "they will teach those mobs, that rabble, what their correct place is."

Pinochet will be nothing but a novice when it comes to the repression that they mistakenly think they will unleash here.

They dream of venting the anger that now swallows in silence against unions, popular organizations and anything that smacks of Sandinism.

They live with the hope of seeing stadiums full of imprisoned people who restrict all popular demands, the return of houses and lands to their "former owners" and the reestablishment of their lifeline to the north, through which they would betray the fatherland drop by drop.

The conspiracy is already underway. Imperialism, now being run by a team of psychopaths, is removing "the underbrush" in order to launch its final offensive in Nicaragua.

This is no time to rest, sleep or leave a single crack open to the enemy. As General Torrijos said: dead first, but never on our knees.

CSO: 3010/1691

BRIEFS

BULGARIAN CONTRIBUTION--The Recursos Maritimos Company, which processes fishmeal, will soon be operating again. The Bulgarian Government has contributed \$225,000 for its reactivation. Another \$25,000 has been supplied by the revolutionary government. The processing company, located in the port of Sandino, will produce 6 tons of fishmeal a day. [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 31 Jul 81 PA]

CSO: 3010/1691

BRIEFS

COPPER MINE PROJECT--The general cabinet meeting held yesterday headed by President Aristides Royo discussed the detailed report presented by Rodrigo Gonzalez, director general of the Cerro Colorado Mining Development Corporation (CODEMIN). The 5-hour meeting was called by President Royo so that top government officials could get first hand knowledge of the multimillion dollar mining project in order to adopt a decision on this important project. Gonzalez said the mine was one of the richest copper deposits in the world. In tonnage it would be second only to the one in Chile. Experts have established that the mine has 1.4 billion tons of copper, which gives it an approximate life span of 50 years. He said the cost of exploitation of the mine would be one of the lowest in the world, in its class. Gonzalez said that the government will invest \$550 million during the construction period estimated at 4 years. The Rio Tinto Zinc Company will invest \$500 million. This will mean a boost of \$1,500 million [figures as published] for national economy in local purchases, salaries and other services. At the end of Gonzalez' report President Royo opened up a question and answer session. President Royo closed the meeting saying that there will be two more meetings in order to be able to adopt a correct decision on this important project. Vice President Ricardo De La Espriella and members of the National Legislative Council also attended the meeting. [Excerpts] [PA111739 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 11 Aug 81 [no page number given]

CSO: 3010/1691

GOVERNMENT DENOUNCES OPPOSITION 'PROPAGANDA' PIECE

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 18 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] The PAM/NRP Government has denounced the Opposition Labour Party for spreading what must be one of their most dirty, misleading and mischievous pieces of propaganda.

A front-page article in Wednesday's issue of THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN bears the caption "Government makes secret payment of \$1 1/2 million to Estate Owners."

The article refers to a statement by Labour's main propagandist, Fitzroy Bryant, which was allegedly made by him at a public meeting this week.

In Bryant's accustomed style, this "revelation" is neither substantial nor factual. It is calculated to mislead, and is notable only for the nastiness of the insinuations it contains.

In December 1975, the then Government in which Bryant was a prominent member, was completing its "rescue operation" of the sugar industry. This programme was carried out with a ruthlessness characterized by the infamous one-square mile state of emergency at West Farm.

It was Labour who came to an agreement with the "sugar barons" referred to by Bryant, regarding payment for the tractors, Broussard loaders, Land Rovers, Carts, Trailers, and implements taken over by NACO from 21 Estates around the island before 1975.

Labour made a large lump-sum payment to the Estate Owners, leaving a balance due of \$600,517.91. They had also made several payments, on the same debt, to individual Estate Owners whose land compensation claims had been settled.

After December 1975 Labour stopped making their agreed payments on this large, UNDISPUTED debt, which THEY themselves had contracted.

Meanwhile, interest at the rate of 6% per annum was accumulating on the debt, which worked out to a sky-rocketing \$40,000.00-\$50,000.00 every year.

By May 1980, the interest alone had galloped to a staggering \$227,219.39, nearly one-quarter million dollars. In order to SAVE the Government and people of this country the further burdens being brought about by not paying this debt, entered

into by Labour, Government settled the outstanding claim on the NACO equipment specified.

Bryant was in Labour's Cabinet. He was party to all Labour's agreements and payments on this outstanding debts for NACO machinery. But this is Bryant's abhorrent technique. Anything potentially embarrassing for Labour, like cleaning up this debt MESS, is rushed into print by Bryant with a warped distorted and false slant.

But this particular rumour, this half-truth is even worse than usual. Because this time Bryant undoubtedly knew the truth. There was no secret payment, because the debt was a Labour Government debt. There was no \$1 1/2 million paid, the amount was \$827,700. There was no spending of Government money which is being denied to "more worthy" causes. On the contrary, this was cutting short an unnecessary waste of money which Labour was apparently completely insensitive to.

The Labour Party should be ashamed. If they have nothing sensible to say against Government, they should HUSH!

CSO: 3025/189

1981-82 BUDGET PROVIDES WAGE HIKES FOR CIVIL SERVANTS

Cato Presentation

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 24 Jul 81 p 5

[Text]

The St. Vincent government has presented a 127.88 million-dollar budget in parliament including provision for a pay increase for public servants, spread over three years.

However, according to reports, the proposed measures drew criticism from the political opposition from the very day of the budget presentation, Tuesday.

The 1981-1982 budget, which is 25 million dollars bigger than last year's reportedly includes increases of 50 and 25 per cent in two areas of taxation.

Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Milton Cato, is reported to have assured Vincentians in his budget speech that the

measures being proposed were in their best interest.

And in his traditional 'Throne Speech,' Governor General Sydney Gun-Munro is reported to have outlined some areas in which the government would be seeking to bring added benefits to Vincentians.

He was quoted as saying that, through the country's Agricultural Development Corporation, government would continue its land reform policy and its tourism promotion through the development of "physical and cultural attractions" and place increased emphasis on training.

According to the report, Sir Sydney assured Vincentians that government was also conscious of the need to increase secondary school

places as well as the need for better housing.

The start of debate on the budget Tuesday night brought early criticism of the proposed measures. Opposition leader Randolph Russell is quoted as saying that the salary increase of roughly 40 per cent over three years for public servants did not "say much."

According to the report, Russell feels that the pay increase will be going back in taxes, which have gone up 50 and 25 per cent for liquor and vehicular licences respectively.

Russell reportedly suggested that the government should have abolished pensions for politicians. - (GNA).

Opposition Criticism

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 24 Jul 81 p 3

[Text]

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent, Thursday, (CANA) — St. Vincent's Opposition Leader, Randolph Russell, Tuesday night strongly condemned the new tax measures introduced by Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Milton Cato, in the 1981-82 Budget proposals presented in Parliament on Tuesday.

As debate on the estimates continued late into the night, the former Health Minister in the Cato Administration said that an announced pay raise of 57 per cent for public servants did not "say much because most of the money will be going back in tax."

The Opposition leader said that the new tax measures —

higher rates for liquor and vehicle licences — would undoubtedly chase away potential investors from the island.

He called for the construction of an international airport to cope with the influx of visitors, noting that far too often, people had to overnight at Grantley Adams International Airport in Barbados because they could not pay hotel fees.

Government also came under severe attack for what Mr. Russell deemed "the suppression of news on the local radio."

"People have to listen to Radio Antilles in Montserrat and CBC Radio (Barbados) to know what's going on in their country," he declared.

The former government minister called on the government to provide better housing and schools, among a host of other things for all its people.

He said that pension for politicians should be abolished and added that only if they had given over 25 years

parliamentary service should they be allowed to a pension.

He stated that veteran politicians like former Chief Minister Ebenezer Joshua and Levi Latham should be among those entitled to receive pension.

CSO: 3025/190

CONTROVERSIAL CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LAW DROPPED

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 22 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

— The Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL) yesterday said the St. Vincent Government had dropped plans for controversial changes in the island's industrial relations legislation.

The CCL's secretary-treasurer, Burns Bonadie told reporters St. Vincent's Prime Minister, Milton Cato, has assured the Barbados-based Labour Body that the plans had been abandoned.

He was commenting on discussions on Monday with the Vincentian leader. They came after trade unionists had arrived in Barbados from St. Vincent seeking CCL aid in stopping the Cato administration from going ahead with the plans for amending the laws.

The Essential Services (amendment) Bill was one of two controversial ones introduced in the St. Vincent Parliament last May. It would have outlawed industrial action in key public sector services.

Bonadie said Mr. Cato had told him the Bill had died "a natural death" when Parliament was prorogued.

"He gave us the assurance that government will not

reintroduce that amendment in the next session of Parliament," Mr. Bonadie said.

It was unclear what the fate of the other Bill — which prescribes stiff penalties for breaches of the public order would be.

During the last session of Parliament opposition politicians and trade unions demanded the withdrawal of the Bills.

Government decided to send the Public Order and Public Safety Bill to a broad-based select committee for an appraisal. It also decided to drop a clause in the Essential Services (amendment) Bill which would have given it the power to treat any public service threatened by industrial action as an essential one.

Mr. Bonadie said the CCL was against the Essential Services Bill largely because "they were taking the right to strike away from the trade unions."

He added: "They were also making provision to delegate the (labour) ministers authority (in handling industrial action) to a permanent secretary." (CANA).

BRIEFS

NETHERLANDS ENVOY--Ambassador Maduro of the Royal Netherlands presented credentials, entrusted to him by Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands to the Governor General, Sir Sydney Gun-Munro on Tuesday morning. In his speech the Ambassador, who was born and raised in Curacao an island in the Dutch Antilles, said that the Netherlands has had close ties with the Caribbean area for centuries. Mr. Maduro said that historical ties have changed and have developed into a relationship which hopefully will be beneficial to both his country and this region. He noted further that the nature of interests will continue to change but that proof of the concern of the Netherlands for the well-being of the people in the Caribbean can be found in its role--in the United Nations and other international forums--in the formation of a new international economic order, or the efforts to reorient the relationship between industrialised [as published] [Text] [Castries THE VINCENTIAN in English 17 Jul 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025/194

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RICH NATIONS MUST PRACTICE ENERGY BELT-TIGHTENING

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish May 81 p 3

[Article by Jose Bodes Gomez: "Tighten the Belt"]

[Text] The experts say they have more data at their disposal today than ever before with respect to energy matters, but at the same time they are compelled to admit that the future in the area of energy is plagued by a number of unknown quantities.

A few years ago, immediately following the initial rise in petroleum prices, there were predictions that this fuel was about to be exhausted, and the more pessimistic of these forecasters predicted a major energy crisis within the near future.

It is true that the world's supply of petroleum, coal and natural gas--which are the fuels most used today throughout the world--is finite, but as of today the known reserves of these fuels are sufficient to last through the first half of the 21st century.

The "unknown quantity" with respect to how long these reserves will last depends fundamentally on the rate of their consumption, and the importance of this question lies in the fact that the model of economic development applied during the present century has been based on utilization of these reserves to the point of actually squandering them.

Projections made by various research centers in the West shed very little light on the future, inasmuch as their calculations for the year 2000 range between 70 billion barrels (at a high rate of consumption) and 47 billion barrels (at the lowest rate of consumption).

Commenting on these projections, one Latin American expert asserted that in reality they "tell us nothing," however sound the research behind them, because the highest figure is 50 percent above the lowest, representing a margin of variation that is impossible to manage in the process of elaborating development plans.

Nor are the experts completely in agreement as to what steps to take in future decades to cope with the energy problem.

Confidence in scientific and technical progress induces one at times to believe that large-scale exploitation of solar energy as an energy source is near at hand.

Something similar is occurring with respect to the heat of the earth (geothermal energy) and the motive power of the oceans, although encouraging progress has been made in connection with these sources as well.

Nevertheless, as two Indian scientists--A. Ramachandra and J. Gururaja--warned recently, "for the majority of the developing countries, all this is somewhat lost in the mist of the future, if not in the mist of dreams."

In the face of these extreme positions--between those who forecast a total energy crisis within the next few decades and those who believe that everything can be solved by recourse to the new sources of energy--the view is gaining favor that both approaches should be combined within the immediate future.

That is to say, the restrained use of the finite resources combined with surveys of possible reserves as yet unknown, together with efforts to master--and lower the cost of--other sources of energy that are renewable.

Boris M. Berkovski, director of the UNESCO programs relating to scientific and technical problems in the energy field, regards it as possible that "our children's great-grandchildren will live in a world that is without petroleum problems and natural gas problems.

"We must therefore," he continues, "concentrate henceforth on developing methods of producing artificial petroleum and gas, and above all, on discovering processes that will assure us of unlimited and ecologically clean energy sources."

The experts such as Berkovski are aware that many years will pass before the new sources--and more specifically solar energy--can satisfy to any appreciable extent the needs of the human race.

Meanwhile, the problems that today confront the underdeveloped countries make it necessary that--among other measures--these countries be ensured an adequate (and increasing) supply of petroleum, in order to get their basic industries under way and improve the living conditions of the people.

There is "another energy crisis," as the ECLA experts call it--a crisis caused by the very low levels of energy consumption. The underprivileged populations--principally the rural populations--use firewood and charcoal to cook their food and to supply heat on winter nights. This consumption represents no less than one-fourth of all the primary energy consumed in Latin America.

For these men and women of our region, the increase in gasoline prices and the cost of operating electric ranges are irrelevant topics in the midst of their anguished struggle for survival. The firewood and charcoal they carry away, however, is also intensifying the deforestation of large areas of Latin America, whose soils tend to become arid amid a hungry world.

On the other side of the consumer problem are the opulent societies. The United States, Japan, Federal Germany and scarcely more than a dozen other developed capitalist countries are currently devouring 60 percent of all the energy produced in the world, whereas their population is only 20 percent of the world's total.

"The rich must tighten their belts, because the poor cannot even afford a belt," Minister Jose Andres Oteyza of Mexico declared at a meeting held recently in his country to elaborate the position that the Latin American governments will take to the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Energy Sources scheduled to be held next August in Nairobi, Kenya.

Rarely will the scientists and politicians ever have to unite their efforts and their sleepless hours to achieve success as they will at this conference. For this will be, in the final analysis, the first step toward a new era of energy.

10992

CSC: 3010/1563

OIL CONSUMPTION DOWN, GASOLINE UP IN FIRST QUARTER

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 24 Jul 81 p 3

[Text] KINGSTON, Jamaica, Thursday, (CANA) — Jamaica's energy conservation efforts paid off in the first three months of this year with a 3.5 per cent drop in oil consumption here.

But the Ministry of Mining and Energy, which released the figures said the 1981 first quarter petrol consumption was up on last years.

According to the Ministry's monthly bulletin, Energy News, 346 449 barrels of gasoline were used between January and March against 338 075 barrels for the corresponding period in 1980.

The overall situation for energy conservation however remained positive, as total amount of petroleum used during the review period was 1 833 286 barrels, compared to 1 900 286 barrels in the first three months of last year.

It added, however: "Despite the net reduction, it is difficult to avoid the disturbing conclusion that motorists may have lost a little of their enthusiasm for conserving gasoline, resulting at least in part, in the increase consumption of gasoline.

"It is a fact that the oil glut on the international scene has

removed some of the pressure from the oil importing countries, and has even caused a downward trend in international oil prices. This does not, however, provide sufficient reason for complacency locally, since our domestic energy bill amounted to J \$455.940 million (one J'ca dollar equal 56 cents US).

This bill was for approximately 7.7 million barrels of oil, and does not include the petroleum in the high energy using bauxite-alumina industry.

If the bauxite-alumina industry was taken into account the energy bill would be well over the J \$700 million mark, but payments for energy for the industry is not outlaid from Jamaica.

The cost of petroleum to Jamaica in 1980 was approximately 32.3 per cent of the total import bill, compared to nine per cent in 1972, the year before the start of the phenomenal increases in petroleum price.

Since 1979 an energy conservation programme has been on here, and over the past two years 10 per cent targets for reduction in use have been set.

In the 1979-80 fiscal year the achievement was 7.2 per cent, and the performance was bet-

tered in 1980-81, when the reduction over the previous year was 9.3 per cent.

The saving last year, caused in part because of reduction in productive capacity in a declining economy, was US \$78 million.

The government's energy programme does not call for any decrease in consumption this year. In fact consumption is expected to rise by a modest five per cent because of a forecast rise in industrial activity as a spinoff of an economic turnaround.

Noted mining and energy report: "In this period when great emphasis is being placed on economic recovery and growth, it follows that any upswing in energy consumption should be directly related to economic expansion."

It pointed out that conservation in itself could not be the long-term solution to Jamaica's energy problem, but was part of the process to be backed up by alternative energy programmes.

Jamaica has an elaborate long-term energy policy which envisages that alternative programmes could reduce the current 97 per cent dependence of imported oil for energy needs to 64 per cent by 1990.

SEA WATER ENERGY PLANT PLANNED WITH EUROPEAN FUNDS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 29 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] A (US)\$70 million experimental plant to produce electricity by using the temperature difference between different layers of sea water, may be put into operation in Jamaica shortly.

Prime Minister Edward Seaga, said yesterday that the financing of the plant has already been identified from a European source, and if present studies prove feasible construction could start in the near future.

Mr. Seaga said three sites which were potentially suitable, had already been identified, and that the process, known in technological language as Ocean Thermal Exchange Conversion, was only a part of a wider alternative energy programme. The programme, estimated to cost (US) \$1,500 million could add over 250 megawatts of new power-generating capacity by 1990. He challenged the symposium and the UN meeting to be held in Kenya next month to consider financing of such programmes in small third world countries like Jamaica. Jamaica would need an additional 131 megawatts of generating capacity by 1990, representing about 36 per cent of the total need by then. The expectation was that this would be provided from non-oil fuels.

He said conversion from oil to coal was expected to account for about 70 megawatts, if studies being undertaken through the US Agency for International Development prove that the move is feasible. The results were expected later this year, and the first converted plant should be operational by 1986.

With regard to power generation using peat as a fuel, Mr. Seaga said that about 60 megawatts could be provided from this source. However a firm decision must await the results of engineering and environmental studies.

The Prime Minister said that hydropower generation was expected to provide 33 megawatts by 1985 and 55 megawatts by the year 2000, primarily through the Blue Mountain scheme, which would also significantly add to the usable water resources of the country.

This, he said, was a very expensive programme which could cost about (US) \$530 million, and if undertaken, would constitute the most expensive single project ever in the history of the island.

In the area of energy from urban waste, Mr. Seaga said garbage and sewage could be used to generate about 24 megawatts of power by 1990. Present indications are that this would be a feasible programme. Other areas of interest, were energy from biomass in which nine digesters were now being planned: wood and charcoal, wind, and thermal.

Regarding exploration for oil, Mr. Seaga said that (US)\$23.8 million was being spent on on-shore operations, and \$53.3 million on off-shore drilling. The first wells are to be sunk during this year.

If all these programmes can be put into effect, Jamaica should be producing 50 per cent of its energy needs from extra-oil sources by 1990, the Prime Minister said.

CSO: 3025/186

PROJECTIONS SHOW NATURAL GAS AHEAD OF OIL BY 1990

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 24 Jul 81 p 1

[Article by John Babb]

[Text]

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO has \$245 billion worth of oil and natural gas reserves, but it's in the ground. And according to projections, natural gas may outstrip oil production by 1990.

On the basis of known reserves and reasonable drilling programmes, it will be difficult to maintain the present level of crude oil production — 214,000 barrels per day — says Mr. Elliott Bastien, of the National Energy Corporation (NEC).

However, the natural gas reserves, on the other hand, reveal a very rosy picture. "Our proven reserves of gas are adequate to the year 2004," he added.

This time estimate takes in consumption by all energy-based industries, including the proposed aluminum smelter, on which no investment decision has yet been taken, but excluding the liquefied natural gas (LNG) project.

Excluding the LNG, he said, there would be a 12 per cent surplus, or almost one trillion cubic feet — a surplus which was inadequate to support an LNG project.

Mr. Bastien was one of four NEC officials, who, explained the position of "Trinidad and Tobago in the World of Energy" yesterday, to a team of media personnel at the second NEC-sponsored information session, held at the Hilton.

Others were Dr. Ken Julien, chairman, who spoke on steel, Mr. Basharat Ali, urea and methanol, and Mr. Malcolm Jones, ammonia and fertiliser.

REASONABLE BREATHING SPELL

While pointing out the declining trend in oil production Mr. Bastien also noted that the trend in international prices for oil indicated that revenue from it would stabilise at about the 1980 figure — (TT) \$4 billion — until 1984.

As such, he added, Trinidad and Tobago, had a reasonable breathing spell of four to five years to develop revenues, other than those from oil.

Natural gas, he emphasised, was the only other significant and commercially exploitable natural resource capable of generating revenues of the required magnitude.

He also explained that although local petroleum resources and their exploitation dwarfed the rest of the economy, by world standards they were small.

Crude oil reserves in 1980 — 700 million barrels — represented a mere one-tenth of one per cent of the world's total of 642 billion barrels, while natural gas, at 14 trillion cubic feet (tcf), was half per cent of total world reserves — 2,573 tcf in 1980.

Domestic energy consumption, he also revealed, was only three per cent, but warned that this could change with the increasing level of affluence in the society. Our transport

sector consumption was 19 per cent; consumption of natural gas as feedstock was 17 per cent, while 63 per cent of energy use was concentrated in the industrial sector.

Speaking of ammonia, Mr. Jones said there were two companies producing ammonia at present — the foreign-owned Federation Chemicals (Fedchem), and Tringen, with a third, Fertrin, about to start production soon.

AMONG WORLD LEADERS

Total production from the Fedchem and Tringen plants, which now amounted to 600,000 metric tons per year, would be increased to more than 1.2 million metric tons per year when the Fertrin plant came on stream.

This production capacity, he said, placed Trinidad and Tobago among the leading 20 world producers of ammonia and the top ten exporters of ammonia.

The favourable supply-demand relationship for ammonia and the presence of substantial quantities of natural gas in Trinidad and Tobago, he explained, provided, in a nutshell, the rationale for the country's entry in the world trade of ammonia.

Much of what was being produced was finding its way on the U.S. market, but Mr. Jones said NEC would also seek to activate markets in Latin America and Western Europe.

In relation to urea, Mr. Basharat Ali said Trinidad and Tobago was geographically well located to take advantage, in respect of freight, over many other producers in serving the Caribbean, Central and South America, as well as the US market.

Preliminary plans for disposal of the product, when the plant came on stream, showed about 30 per cent going into the US market, with the balance being disposed in the rest of the region.

Looking towards 1990, when Trinidad and Tobago's urea would be a well-established product, said Mr. Ali, a market of almost three million metric tons should still be available for the country's production.

LONG TRACK RECORD

By mid-1984, he said, the country would have entered the world of methanol, the manufacturing process of which was similar to that for ammonia production, in which the country already had a long track record.

Even before the construction of the plant, he said 60 per cent of the methanol output of 360,000 metric tons per year,

was already committed in firm "take or pay" agreements, for terms varying between seven and ten years.

He said it was NEC's deliberate policy not to make any further long-term commitments at this stage, since it needed flexibility to either pursue the most advantageous markets, price-wise, or to develop possible downstream facilities.

Dr. Julien, in a brief rundown on steel, explained that there were 12 to 20 different types of steel which required the building of different plants, so when one was speaking of 'steel in trouble' they had to specify which steel.

The steel plants that were closing were those producing steel plates, or flat steel, used in the motor-car and shipbuilding industries.

Steel's major competitors, he said, were aluminum and plastics, both of which Trinidad and Tobago was capable of producing.

He said Government chose the production of direct reduction iron (DRI) and wire rods because of the wide range of items that could be produced from both and the availability of markets for such products.

CSC: 3025/186

NATIONAL MOVEMENT MEMBER RAPS VENEZUELA'S LAND CLAIM

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] Barbados' support for Guyana in that country's dispute over a territorial claim by Venezuela was lauded yesterday by the Caribbean National Movement, a grouping of intellectuals and progressive persons.

One member of the Movement, Dominican Rosie Douglas told a news conference here yesterday that Barbados was one of the few Caribbean Governments to take an unequivocal position in the matter, and he appealed to other Caribbean Governments to follow the lead set by Barbados.

He said that as long ago as 1975, the late Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister, Dr. Eric Williams in an address to a special convention of his ruling Peoples National Movement (PNM) had warned the Caribbean of the threat posed by Venezuela.

Mr. Douglas said Dr. Williams had warned that the very independence which the region had fought so hard for was being threatened by the South American Republic, and urged Caribbean leaders to unite for the purpose of defending their nationhood.

He said that unfortunately most of the Caribbean leaders did not take Dr. Williams seriously with the result that today Venezuela had intensified its claims to two-thirds of Guyanese territory, increased its militancy against Trinidad and Tobago fishermen operating in the Gulf of Paria which separates Trinidad from Venezuela and had grabbed Bird Island from Dominica.

He charged that as a result of Venezuela's expansionist behaviour, the country was now suggesting that the Caribbean Sea be renamed "Venezuela Sea".

"In addition they were now in negotiations with the Government of Holland saying that Curacao and Aruba were in Venezuela's territorial waters and therefore any attempt to give the two islands independence should be discussed with Venezuela", Mr. Douglas remarked.

He noted that while there has been a problem between Venezuela and neighbouring Colombia over a disputed territory in the Lake Maracaibo region, "they (Venezuelans) were saying that on no account were they prepared to fight a war with Colombia".

Mr. Douglas said that the Caribbean National Movement was now whipping up support for a three-day conference to be held possibly in St. Lucia during the month of September to discuss Venezuela's behaviour, and it was enlisting the support of all Caribbean Governments organisations, and other groups.

He accused Venezuela of wanting to control the Caribbean for military, economic, strategic, and racist reasons, while adding that the Government in Caracas had condoned terrorist activities through the acquitting of three men accused with the blowing up of a Cubana aircraft five years ago.

He said Venezuela was basing its claim to the island on an outdated document, the papal bull which in the colonial era mandated that all lands visited by conquerers belonged to Spain.

He charged that what Venezuela was doing now "was to erect military fortifications under the sea to be able to say that the island had been colonised by them".
[as published]

"That is why we have decided to issue a call to the entire region, Governments and non-Government organisations, social organisations and mass movements to deal with the question of Caribbean nationalism, independence, and territorial integrity and national sovereignty", he added.

CSO: 3025/187

LABOR CONGRESS SEES WAGE FREEZES BRINGING AREA UNREST

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

The Caribbean Congress of Labour has predicted further labour unrest in the region, if governments follow the policy of imposing restrictions on pay increases, as is now being considered by the Dominica Government.

Dominica is seeking a EC \$37 million loan from the International Monetary Fund, (IMF) and one of the conditions laid down by the IMF is that the Government implement a wage freeze within the public service, limiting wage increases to 10 per cent over the next three years.

Secretary treasurer of the CCL, Mr. Burns Bonadie, said that the freeze restricted the operations of the trade union, and he pointed out, that in both the case of Guyana and Jamaica, where such measures had been taken, it had invoked a climate of labour unrest.

Mr. Bonadie said that it is almost certain that other countries seeking IMF loans would be asked to follow suit, and the CCL anticipated labour

unrest wherever the restrictions were implemented.

Another disturbing trend the CCL secretary treasurer said, was the establishment of industrial courts to deal with labour disputes in several countries in the region. This he said further hindered the trade union, since it meant that labour disputes were often sent to tribunals instead of the bargaining table.

Mr. Bonadie cited the prevailing situation in Jamaica, where such a court had been appointed to deal with a dispute involving bauxite workers, and said that the CCL had written to the Jamaica Government expressing concern about the way it had been handled.

The CCL is due to have a meeting of its affiliates in September here in Barbados, and the question of anti trade union legislation, and the political and economic climate in the region, are high on the agenda.

CSO: 3025/187

BRITAIN DISSATISFIED WITH MOST AREA BANANA EXPORTS

Threat to Economy

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 26 Jul 81 p 4

[Text]

ROSEAU, Dominica,
July 20, (CANA):
DOMINICA'S FRUIT
industry has run into
serious quality prob-
lems as British house-
wives, who are among
the biggest buyers,
question the assertion
"a banana is a
banana, is a banana."

The big British firm,
Geest Industries Limit-
ed, which buys the
bulk of bananas from
Dominica and three
other Windward
Islands, has started
complaining about the
erratic quality of the
exported fruit.

The situation here and else-
where in the Windwards
has raised fears about
Britain continuing to give
the islands — including
St. Vincent, St. Lucia
and Grenada — preferen-
tial treatment for their
fruit exports.

This in turn has raised
fears of a sharp decline
in the millions of dollars
in hard cash that
annually flow into this
island — indeed the
region — bolstering the
agriculture-oriented econ-
omy.

Managing Director of
Geest International, Ray
Hilbourne, recently told
Dominican and other
Caribbean Banana Pro-
ducers: "it is very diffi-
cult for the British gov-
ernment to maintain
protective measures for
the Caribbean fruit if the
Caribbean fruit is not
what the British house-
wife wants."

The Caribbean's hold on
the traditional British
market has been weak-
ened by the high quality
of fruit from other export-
ers especially central
America. These produc-
ers have made significant
inroads in 1979 and
1980, when hurricanes
left a trail of disaster in
the Caribbean's agricul-
tural sector.

Premature harvesting of
bananas and an outbreak
of leafspot disease have
been listed among the
major problems facing
the industry here. Stand-
ards were also
inconsistent.

"The trader can open one
box and its a good one,
open another its half-
good, half-bad, open
another its not good at
all," Hilbourne said. "No
industry can survive
unless it deals with those
problems."

Hilbourne, who visited box-
ing plants here and in

the other Windward
Islands, said he was
appalled at the manner
in which the fruit was
being prepared for ship-
ping overseas.

"Basically, it is one of the
many unfortunate prac-
tices when you think we
are in a modern banana
industry and you still see
fruits in heaps at the side
of the road, sometimes
without protection, open
to the sun," he remarked.

"Those bananas could nev-
er be good at the market-
place, where you see leaf-
spot-infested fruit can get
through to the
marketplace.

"There is scale fruit, there
is scarred fruit, and there
is fruit which ripens
on the way over."

He added: "What we
started doing in 1952 is
no longer good enough
for 1981. Somehow, we've
got to meet that
challenge."

The opposition leftist
Dominica Liberation
Movement Alliance
(DLMA) has said that Hil-
bourne was telling the
country "with the usual
British courtesy" that it
was about to lose pro-
tection on the British
market.

Premium for St Vincent

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 26 Jul 81 p 4

[Text]

KINGSTOWN.
St. Vincent,
July 21. (CANA):
St. Vincent's reputation
for producing the best
quality bananas in the
Windward islands has
been rewarded with a
price increase while other
islands have been
announcing reductions.
News of the special pre-
mium price increase of
nine pounds sterling per
ton for fruit sold on the
United Kingdom market
has come from the St.
Vincent Banana Growers
Association.
Executive Secretary Cut-
thbert Williams described
it as a welcome devel-
opment attributable to
the superior quality of St.
Vincent fruit, local agron-
omic efforts and general
operational control.
Mr. Williams said that offi-
cials of Geest West Indies
industries, which markets
Windward islands
bananas in Britain, have
commended local author-
ities for their efforts to
improve methods in the
industry.
Recently Geest warned
that deteriorating quality
of Windward islands fruit
was severely hampering
the banana trade and
warned that there needed
to be improvement if the
industry was to survive.
Dominica announced two
price reductions last week
and warned its farmers
that further reductions
were necessary.
The St. Vincent premium
payment is part of an
effort to give incentives as
part of the quality
improvement drive.
Mr. Williams reiterated a
call to farmers, truckers
and boxing plant workers
not to relax their efforts
and ensure that St. Vin-
cent continues to receive
the special premium
price.

CSO: 3025/187

BRIEFS

REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER--Plans are on the drawing board for the establishment of a Caribbean Appropriate Technology Centre (CATC) to serve the islands of the Eastern Caribbean. The Centre which will be sponsored by the Christian Action for Development in the Caribbean (CADEC), will design, construct, prepare specifications for, and run field tests on projects employing appropriate technology. The two-phase project is being spearheaded by Grenadian-born Mr. Conrad Mason. A six-month planning phase which is now underway, ends on November 15, at which time implementation begins. Mr. Mason, who has been named co-ordinator of the project, will visit Antigua, St. Kitts, Montserrat, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and Grenada during the planning phase to coordinate the scheme with appropriate technology groups in those islands, and set up "think tanks." One important aspect of the Centre's work will be the development and operation of a Documentation Centre, which will collect information on appropriate technology, and make it available wherever it is needed in the region. Funds totalling U.S.\$96 000 have been made available to CADEC by two international organizations for the initial two-year duration of the project. Further funds will be sought from other organizations such as the Caribbean Development Bank, which have special funds available for funding of such projects. CATC will be sited in one of the regional countries it serves, most likely Barbados. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 23 Jul 81 p 1]

SWEDISH LOAN TO CDB--Bridgetown, Barbados, July 29 (CANA): The Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the government of Sweden today signed a contribution agreement under which Sweden made available five million (US) dollars to the bank's special development fund. Speaking at the signing ceremony at the bank's headquarters, CDB president, William Demas, termed the agreement "an important breakthrough", and appealed to other developed countries to emulate the example set by Sweden. "Apart from a smaller contribution from New Zealand in 1976, this contribution is the first offered to the CDB's special development fund by a non-member country on an interest free, non-reimbursible basis without undue restriction on procurement", Demas noted. The agreement is of particular significance to the bank because of recent efforts to obtain additional financing on very concessional terms to meet the needs of the countries of the Caribbean region, especially the lesser developed ones, he said. Signing on behalf of the Swedish government was Hans Blix, Under-Secretary of State, Office of International Development Co-operation in the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Blix stated that Sweden considered it a moral duty to assist developing countries. He said the agreement was in keeping with the country's attitude towards the north-south dialogue.

SPEECH FROM THRONE OPENS NEW SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

Highlights of Speech

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 22 Jul 81 p 1

[Article by Jewel Brathwaite]

[Text] The Barbados Government anticipates that there will be a sharp drop in the growth rate in the island's economy over the next two years.

So said Governor-General Sir Deighton Ward while delivering the Throne Speech at yesterday's official opening of Parliament.

Sir Deighton said the slowdown from five per cent last year is expected to reach no more than two per cent in the next two years or so.

He added that in the interest of ensuring the long-term resilience of the economy, "Government will find it necessary to institute measures to restrain consumption and to moderate wage increases over that period."

The Head of State noted that the Barbados economy had managed to perform at a high level over the past three years despite general difficulties in the world economy, and it consistently recorded growth rates which exceeded targets and inflation was kept within what he called tolerable limits.

"However, it must be recognised that, in the short term, the performance of the economy will be affected adversely by the continuing difficulties in the world economy

and by the exceptional rainfall which has severely affected local agriculture and, in particular the sugar industry," he told the Chamber.

The Governor-General said that the fiscal policy pursued by Government during the past four and a half years met with great success in the redistribution of income towards the poorest section of the population.

In addition, he went on, Government achieved public sector savings to support the development of the productive capacity of the country, and the social and physical infrastructure on which it rested.

"The pre-emption of balance of payments and inflationary pressures through the management of the public of the public debt and the public sector deficits in a manner consistent with the short and long-run absorptive capacity of the economy have received special attention", Sir Deighton declared.

Turning to future government policy, the Governor-General said that foreign borrowing will be confined to making good temporary shortfalls in local agriculture or industrial earnings, or for productive investments in the economy.

He said such policies will be supported by the following income generation measures:

- Income and corporation tax exemptions for the export of non-sugar agricultural commodities;

- Special incentives for high employment businesses such as computer services and regional distribution organisations;

- A new tax regime for petroleum producing operations.

He also announced that a Government Investment Trust will be set up to act as a source of equity capital for small businesses.

Sir Deighton also announced measures which he said Government would be undertaking to tackle the question of energy which has brought a heavy economic burden on oil importing countries.

These include an expanded programme of petroleum and natural gas production; implementation of a wind energy pilot project to determine the future distribution and size of wind turbines; the use of solar energy for a wide range of purposes, including industrial cooling, on the basis of expanded tax incentives and concessionary loans for such purposes, and exploration of the potential for wave energy generation, and the installation of a wave energy device if deemed possible.

Remarks on Agriculture

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 22 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] Plans to stimulate agricultural development, improved education and provide an expanded health services will form part of the Barbados Labour Party's (BLP) programme during the coming five years.

These were all part of the Government's overall policy unveiled yesterday in the Senate by Governor-General Sir Deighton Ward while delivering the traditional throne speech at the official opening of a new parliamentary session.

Sir Deighton said the agricultural programme was targeted at making the islands as near self-sufficient in food production as was practicable, making the island a net exporter of food including sugar and products of the sea, improved marketing arrangements and pricing procedures.

In addition the agricultural thrust will encourage the agricultural entrepreneur, the farmer and the agricultural worker to be fully equipped and technically skilled so as to maximise earnings and improve productivity.

There will also be an improvement of cultivation techniques, establishment of a new Barbados Marketing Corporation (BMC) and the encouragement of the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) to get involve on a much larger fruit industry, support for dairy farmers, establishment of a feed

lot and a fish marketing and distribution agency.

The Governor-General also said that five new Polyclinics will be commissioned within the next three years in addition to the provision of full-time planning clinics and an expanded health education programme.

Turning to Education Sir Deighton declared "The new education act which was passed during the last Parliamentary session, will soon be promulgated; and a programme of guidance and counselling will be introduced initially in the Secondary Schools."

In addition he added, government will continue its programme of upgrading and replacing where necessary, its primary schools, there will be stepped up teachers training.

As regards unemployment Government will be tackling the issue by the two separate approaches.

"Firstly, by the creation of the condition and the investment climate which will allow the economy to expand at a real rate to meet increases in the labour force.

Secondly, by a concerted programme to match the availability of skills to employment opportunities through an expanded range of job training programmes for school-leavers, the introduction of a National Service Scheme, and by providing additional

educational opportunities aimed at meeting the demand for trades and new skills as may be required by the diversification of the economy."

In addition the development a manpower Planning Unit within the Labour Department will be continued, and the unit will make analyses of labour market information and prepare relevant data on which sound manpower policies can be formulated.

Sir Deighton stated further that the skills training project which commenced two years ago, will be continued, and the National training Board, established under the authority of the Occupational Training Act of 1979, will be launching a revamped apprenticeship training programme shortly.

Other measures will include the upgrading of the Employment Exchange to full fledged Employment Bureau to provide more comprehensive employment among other duties, expansion of the National Insurance and Social Security Scheme.

As a related matter Government will be introducing Comprehensive Labour Legislation to Parliament to deal with unfair dismissals, equal opportunity and equal treatment in employment for men and women, improved health, safety and welfare measures for employees in factories, and regulation of hours of work and minimum wages.

Expansion of Opposition

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 22 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] **THE Opposition will soon have a bigger voice in the Senate.**

It was hinted yesterday by Governor General Sir Deighton Ward that the Barbados Government would shortly

be proposing an amendment to the Constitution which would bring about this change.

During his Throne Speech yesterday, Sir Deighton Ward said:

"It is hoped, Mr. President and members of the

Senate and Mr. Speaker and members of the House of Assembly, that when next you meet on an occasion such as this, your approval will have been given, and the proposal implemented, for an increase in the proportion of seats for representatives of the Opposition

in this particular Chamber."

He also said that Government proposed to improve the facilities of Parliament and to make further provision for elected members to maintain constituency offices, so as to facilitate the electors in keeping

in touch with their representatives.

Sir Deighton also touched on other matters noting that the island's economy had managed to perform very well over the past three years, despite general difficulties in the world economy.

He outlined a wide-ranging set of energy conservation and

development activities which Government would embark on soon.

These included an expanded programme of petroleum and natural gas production, and the implementation of a wind energy pilot project to determine the future distribution and size of wind turbines.

Hinds in Speakership

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 22 Jul 81 p 1

[Article by Albert Brandford]

[Text]

ST. PETER MP, Burton Hinds, re-elected to the Speakership of the Barbados House of Assembly yesterday, immediately pledged to always remember that the minority has rights.

In his acceptance speech, Hinds said he was fully conscious of the responsibility placed on him by members in elevating him to that high office.

And, he issued an invitation to all members to play their part as he tried to carry out his responsibilities since they were all working for the good of the nation.

He said the House of Assembly looms larger than any of its members, who would all pass away, but the institution would remain for a long time, noting that it would stand and had withstood storms.

As he extended his thanks to MPs, Hinds urged them to pledge him their support.

He had earlier been elected by a 16-10 vote after a division was called for when the question was "but" He was taken "reluctantly" to the chair by two senior members of the ruling party.

Later, when Leader of the House, Lionel Craig, tried to move the suspension of the sitting, in order to continue with the formal opening Hinds pointed out to him that the Standing Orders of the House did not allow him to do that.

Opposition Leader Errol Barrow assured Hinds that if he continued to uphold the Standing Orders of the House in such a manner then he would have his unqualified support, pointing out that the Speaker could not take judicial notice of a programme prepared for visitors.

After the election of members to serve on various committees, and notice was given of a number of items of Government Business, the House was adjourned for the summer recess until Tuesday, September 8, at noon.

Workers Union Reaction

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 25 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

General Secretary of the Barbados Workers' Union (BWU), Mr. Frank Walcott, has warned that the union will not be co-operating in any measure of wage restraint.

He was reacting to a statement in the Throne Speech by Governor General, Sir Deighton Ward, at last Tuesday's

State Opening of Parliament that Government anticipates a slow-down in the rate of real growth in the economy from five per cent in 1980 to no more than two per cent in the next two years.

Government also said that in the interest of ensuring the long-term resilience of the economy it will find it necessary to in-

stitute measures to restrain consumption and to moderate wages over that period.

Mr. Walcott said the BWU could not support that statement since it did not reconcile with a statement made by Prime Minister, Tom Adams, earlier this year that Government had so well managed the economy that it had resisted inflation better than any other place in the world.

"We do not wish at this stage to hold him up to that

superlative statement but we wish to say that we cannot at this stage believe that in the same year 1981 you could come back and say to us, the workers, that we should restrain ourselves when it was stated earlier in the year how well inflation was managed."

The BWU General Secretary said the union wanted the

workers to know that the statement was not new but was "a similiar statement" made after elections.

"The sweet things come before but the bitter things will come after — this is typical of many governments of the world," said Mr. Walcott.

Mr. Walcott was emphatic that the union would not co-operate with any wage restraint

at any stage whatsoever as a means of under-writing an economy for a minority of people to enjoy a standard of living that is superior to the masses of workers of this country.

"It has not worked anywhere else," Mr. Walcott said. And he pointed out that the Union did not feel that the workers of Barbados should be "any economic guinea pigs."

CSO: 3025/189

POWER RESTORED AFTER CHAOTIC SIX DAYS OF BLACKOUTS

Damage to Tourism

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 13 Jul 81 p 1

[Excerpts]

BAHAMAS ELECTRICITY Corporation services were almost back to normal over the weekend following a six-day crisis that left many areas of New Providence without power for periods of 12 hours and more.

The blackouts had a crippling effect on the economy and did incalculable damage to the tourist industry, causing at least 3,000 visitors to flee New Providence, taking back to their homes reports of hot, stuffy hotel rooms with non-flushing toilets, and closed restaurants.

As tourists arrived in Miami from their fourth of July weekend here, they were met

by TV cameras in Miami and their uncomplimentary and sometimes angry comments got wide publicity.

BEC general manager Peter Bethel, making his first public statement late last Wednesday, promised that full electricity service would be restored by the weekend or early this week "barring any unforeseen setback."

However, he warned it would take up to two months before equipment would arrive to replace faulty cables, which he said caused the blackouts.

However, while Mr Bethel's statement satisfied most New Providence residents, there are

still many that fear a complete breakdown of BEC equipment.

The questions many members of the public would like answered are:

- What is the overall state of BEC equipment?

- Why were two cables allowed to deteriorate "to the point of unreliability" before steps were taken to replace them?

- Is it correct, as BEC workmen have told The Tribune, that the amount of electricity coming from the three generating stations is low, and

- What is the likelihood of the problem recurring?

Call for Minister's Resignation

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 13 Jul 81 p 1

[Excerpt]

MINISTER OF Works Loftus Roker came in for severe criticisms by the controversial National Progressive Committee for "going on a fishing trip while New Providence was in the throes of an electricity crisis."

"Is Bahamas Electricity Corporation not his

responsibility," the NPC asked. "If he has any political sense, he will gracefully resign from active politics."

Mr Roker was on vacation last week when residents here faced massive blackouts due to faulty transmission cables. Mr Roker was contacted by telephone at Chub Cay where a

fishing tournament was being held. Tourism Minister Clement Maynard was named acting Works Minister.

Speaking from Chub Cay Minister Roker denied that he was advised by experts three years ago to have the transmission cables changed.

SDP Condemnation

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 7 Jul 81 pp 1, 8

[Excerpt]

THE SOCIAL Democratic Party, in a hard-hitting press statement, today strongly condemned Government as being responsible - through mismanagement and shortsightedness - for the break down of Bahamas Electricity Corporation equipment.

The statement read as follows:

"The Social Democratic Party holds the PLP government directly and solely responsible for the tremendous economic damage and maddening inconveniences being suffered by tourists and Bahamians, rich and poor alike.

because of the devastating power blackouts throughout New Providence.

"The cost of the power failures in recent weeks, in dollars and cents, as well as in human suffering, has been so astronomical that the Bahamian people can justifiably and with deep anger demand an answer from the government to one question. Why?

"The SDP is satisfied that the primary cause of the blackouts was not the much-publicized worker unrest. The go-slow, we believe, merely triggered a chain reaction of equipment

failures that would have happened sooner or later anyway.

"Blame for the severe personal hardships and economic dislocations resulting from the lack of power must be placed squarely on PLP negligence.

"It has become increasingly obvious that the workers' action simply brought forcefully to light serious underlying equipment problems and shortages that can only be the result of the PLP government's mismanagement and shortsightedness."

Call for Investigation

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 8 Jul 81 p 1

[Excerpts] The government came under fire from Opposition leader Kendal Isaacs today "for having allowed the country's utilities to deteriorate to the point where the entire economic life of the nation is at stake."

He also called for the appointment of an impartial commission to investigate and assess the capability of the nation's utilities with emphasis on the supply of electricity.

"The Government has failed abysmally to upgrade and expand our utilities, including our electricity generating and distribution system, appreciably beyond what they found when they came to power in 1967," Mr Isaacs said. "The PLP are trying to run a modern industrial resort complex with outdated geriatric equipment. As a result, the nation has been plunged into chaos.

"This of course does not take into account that this government has thus far been markedly unsuccessful in extending electrical services to the islands of the southeast," Mr Isaacs said.

CSO: 3025/188

BRIEFS

TUC WITHDRAWAL--The Bahamas Hotel Catering and Allied Workers Union announced Wednesday that effective immediately it has suspended indefinitely its affiliation with the Commonwealth of The Bahamas Trade Union Congress. The decision was arrived at, said the union's release, "after many weeks of soul-searching by the executives all of whom were involved directly or indirectly in the formation of the TUC and helped to make it what it is today." [Excerpt] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 11 Jul 81 p 6]

CSO: 3025/193

GOVERNMENT DEFEATED IN SENATE FOR FIRST TIME IN 34 YEARS

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 23 Jul 81 p 3

[Text]

HAMILTON, Bermuda, Wednesday, (CANA) — The government has been defeated in the Senate on a proposal to buy land for a golf course in Bermuda's second town St. George's — the first major upset of a House of Assembly plan by the Upper House in more than 30 years.

The last time Members of Parliament suffered such a rebuff was in 1947, when the Legislative Council, as it was then called, sent back a Bill to allow the widespread introduction of cars on the island.

"It's a rare occasion indeed when the Upper House upsets the plans of the Lower House," said House of Assembly Clerk John Gilbert.

"The Upper House has often delayed Bills or plans by requesting amendments. It's rare for them to throw something out altogether as they have this time.

"But this shows the Senate has teeth and is not merely a rubber-stamping body," said Mr. Gilbert.

The plan rejected by the Senate was for government to be allowed to buy — compulsorily if necessary — three lots of land

needed to link two nine-hole golf courses to form an 18-hole course.

As part of a deal with York Hannover, a North American firm which intends building a controversial time-sharing cottage colony in St. George's, government has promised an 18-hole golf course. The plan was approved in the House of Assembly several weeks ago.

But after failing in the Senate it is likely to be the end of the year before it is discussed again as the House does not sit again until November following the summer recess.

Senators were tied five-five on the issue, which meant the proposal was defeated as the President of the Senate does not have a casting vote.

The only Senator missing for the vote was an independent, Stanley Gascoigne, who left the meeting 45 minutes previously he said because of an important prior engagement.

Of the ten Senators who voted, the five government members voted in favour while the three opposition and two other independent members voted against.

CSO: 3025/187

BRIEFS

BAN ON FOREIGN OWNERSHIP--Government is to ban the sale of new condominiums or apartments to non-Bermudians. But the clampdown will not affect those properties currently being built, or those which have already been proposed if such developers get their plans in to the Ministry of Home Affairs within the next two weeks. And exempt companies will be able to lease for up to 21 years properties for full-time, foreign staff working in Bermuda. All apartments or condominiums which have an annual rental value of less than \$5,700 will still have to be sold to Bermudians. So in effect, the only people really to suffer from the new policy outlined yesterday by the Hon. John Swan, Minister of Home Affairs, will be developers who had long-term plans to build properties with A.R.V.s of over \$5,700 and sell them to foreigners. Another change is that non-Bermudians wishing to buy apartments or condominiums here must possess a residency certificate, which is only issued by Home Affairs after careful scrutiny. In the past having enough money to buy property was the only qualification needed. [Excerpt] [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 24 Jul 81 pp 1, 5]

CSO: 3025/193

TRADE EXPANSION WITH PRC, UPCOMING NETTO VISIT DISCUSSED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Jul 81 p 23

[Article by Milano Lopes: "Delfim May Take Mission to China This Year"]

[Text] Moscow--Preparations have already begun for the next big trade mission that Planning Minister Delfim Netto will make abroad. Probably this year or early in 1982 he will go to China for the same purpose that brought him to Moscow; that is, an effort to expand Brazil's trade with large nontraditional markets through signing long-term contracts for sale of commodities and increasing exports of manufactured goods.

As a matter of fact, Delfim's trip to the PRC has been planned for some time and Itamaraty [Brazilian Foreign Affairs Ministry] and the international staff of the Planning Ministry have been working on it since the beginning of this year. Negotiations were slowed down, however, due to the more rapid development of the mission he has just made to the Soviet Union and, furthermore, it was not considered good strategy to announce at the same time an intention to go to both Moscow and Beijing, particularly in view of the current strained relations between the Chinese and the Soviets.

Prospects

However, the possibilities of expanding Brazil's trade with the PRC are as good as or better than those with the Soviet Union itself. China is in the midst of a process of entering the world market. It can develop projects to exploit the complementarity of its economy with that of Brazil through trade capable of assuming a reasonable bilateral balance. It can also develop, with Brazil, projects in other countries--in Africa as well as in Latin America and Southeast Asia--operating in countries where its political influence is visible and whose stage of economic development makes possible a Brazilian contribution in establishing infrastructure for transportation, telecommunications, public works, energy systems and so forth.

The Chinese do not lack any desire to increase business with Brazil. At the beginning of last year China was about to sign a long-term contract with Brazil for a minimum of 5 years for furnishing 500,000 tons of soybeans a year--the same that has just been signed with the Soviets--but did not succeed because Brazil did not try hard enough, especially for fear of not having enough when it came time to deliver on the promised sale.

When the Bank of Brazil decided to set up an office in Macao, an island administered by Portugal but in fact dominated by China, Chinese authorities offered all the facilities and the agency has been operating normally since last year. At the beginning of this year Beijing granted, almost immediately after the request was made, authorization for the Bank of Brazil to function in China. A large building in the center of the banking district was leased to BB [Bank of Brazil], which may begin operating this year or, at the latest, in the first quarter of 1982.

About 1 month ago a delegation from the Bank of China made an official visit to Brasilia to discuss the reciprocity agreement according to which one of its agencies will also function in Brazil, probably in Rio de Janeiro. On that occasion, during a reception the Chinese had for Brazilian officials in the Chinese Embassy and a lunch the Bank of Brazil gave in return, there was ample discussion of the need for a specific initiative by the Brazilian government about sending a high-level mission to Beijing to discuss the terms of a trade agreement between the two countries involving commodities as well as manufactured goods, an idea well-received by the Brazilian authorities.

On the Chinese side, the agreement could cover exports of petroleum and coal and, on the Brazilian side, the sale of soybeans, soybean meal and soybean oil, coffee, other commodities and some manufactured goods. Of course, just as occurred recently with the Soviet Union, Brazilian businessmen will be part of the official mission with the intention of identifying, through direct contact with Chinese state enterprises, products susceptible to negotiation, which will be part of a basic list that will lead to a much larger volume of trade.

This list, incidentally, began being prepared 2 months ago when a Brazilian business mission headed by former Planning Minister Reis Velloso was in Beijing, returning to Brazil convinced of the possibility of greatly expanding trade between the two countries.

Difficulties

Brazilian authorities, as well as the Chinese, acknowledge that there are difficulties to be overcome if trade levels commensurate with the size of the markets of the two countries are to be attained. The principal difficulty is the distance that separates Brazil from China, along with the fact that the Chinese do not have ports capable of receiving large oil tankers and bulk freighters that are now carrying interocean freight at a reduced cost.

Having ports with capacity to receive ships of 150,000 tons at the most, China is virtually forced to negotiate with its Asian neighbors, especially Japan, to re-export products acquired in other countries, naturally at a higher cost than that available on the world market.

This difficulty, however, is not insurmountable, as Brazil has been negotiating with Japan since last year for building a port structure called "Asia Port," which would function as a kind of entrepot for distribution of commodities, especially grain, with the Asian countries that do not have a port structure capable of receiving large ships.

At first the idea was to set up Asia Port at Mindanao in the Philippines, where Nippon Steel has a suitable location, but it is possible that it will be installed in Japan itself, where there are also ideal conditions, especially in the southern provinces. After it is decided where the port will be installed, little time will be needed to begin its operation, as Japan is making haste to have a place for receiving and redistributing commodities, not just for operational reasons but also in view of the possibility of influencing the pricing policies of such commodities on a world scale, to the extent that enormous volumes of commodities will be shipped to Asia, creating in this way a new axis in the world market. And the contribution of Brazil, as an exporter of commodities to the region, especially iron ore, is considered essential for the success of the undertaking.

Naturally, Brazil's interest in participating in building and operating the Asia Port will be greater if it generates conditions for expanding Brazil's trade with China. And it is in that direction that Planning Minister Delfim Netto intends to go, with the purpose of creating the broadest possible range of options for expanding Brazilian exports.

8834

CSO: 3001/221

EXPORT GOAL FOR 1981 SEEN 'DIFFICULT,' NOT 'IMPOSSIBLE'

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Jul 81 p 47

[Text] Brasilia--Brazilian exports this year are unlikely to reach the goal of \$26 billion, but the trade account has "great possibilities" of being balanced or even showing a small surplus, as it is expected that imports will exhibit a performance similar to that of last year, with a total of about \$23 billion. Hence, the aggregate value of domestic merchandise sold abroad will be about \$23 billion.

This reestimate of trade-balance prospects was made by Carlos Viacava, secretary general of the Finance Ministry. According to him, the picture could change if there is a significant improvement in prices of commodities (coffee, sugar, soybeans and cocoa), whose international quotations have been registering a mild recovery in recent days. Continuation of this trend could raise the sum total of exports. But Viacava feels that "anything \$100 million to \$500 million above \$23 billion would be an excellent result," taking into account that imports would also be at that level.

The basic working assumption of the Brazilian trade account for this year, according to the document "Foreign-Sector Policy," submitted to the National Monetary Council at its 21 January meeting, provides for a surplus of \$1 billion, with exports of \$26 billion and imports of \$25 billion. In the meantime, two additional assumptions are being made; one with the possibility of equilibrium and the other with a deficit of \$1 billion. The prospect of equilibrium indicates exports and imports of \$25 billion, and that of deficit shows exports of \$24 billion, compared with imports of \$25 billion.

Struggle for Equilibrium

According to Viacava, achieving equilibrium or having a small surplus is more important than exporting \$26 billion. "Last year," he says, "we had two goals: to arrive at equilibrium (which we did not manage to do because we had a deficit of about \$2.8 billion) and to reach exports of \$20 billion, which would have meant growing 30 percent over 1979. Everyone thought this goal was unattainable. We reached the \$20 billion and this was very important because it increased our credibility in the foreign market, especially in the financial area, whose position changed from water to wine.

"Now the bankers are coming to us. I never had lunch with so many bankers," he exclaims, referring to the frequent lunches offered in the Finance Ministry to managers

of international financial institutions, "who express confidence, saying that Brazil is a country with a future; they praise the measures we are taking and the results achieved so far, saying that we are on the right road," comments Viacava.

To retain this confidence of foreign bankers (creditors of a foreign debt approaching \$60 billion), the government must show it is capable of at least fulfilling the promise of balancing purchases and sales of merchandise. Explaining an export performance below expectations will be easier, in view of the world economic recession and the unending protectionist measures.

Although he believes it would be "difficult" to reach the export goal, Carlos Viacava does not consider this "impossible." According to him, the government has four good reasons (exchange rate, tax credit, seasonality of exports and recovery of commodity prices in the international market) to believe in the possibility of selling \$14 billion to \$15 billion in the international market during the second half of this year, thus ending the year with \$25 billion to \$26 billion. During the first 6 months of this year exports totaled \$10.855 billion, compared with \$9.193 billion in the same period last year. From July to December 1980, exports were \$10.939 billion.

No New Measure

In this second half, no new measure will be taken to encourage exports, although the policy of resolving individual problems as they arise is being retained, reports Viacava, recalling the case of beef, exports of which were again exempted from the tax on movement of merchandise (ICM); payment of operating-cost loans for soybeans, which was extended; and collection of the ICM for cotton, which was postponed for 90 days. "No overall measure," he emphasized.

To stimulate exports during the second half of this year, the government, according to the secretary general of the Finance Ministry, is depending upon an aggressive foreign-exchange policy, according to which devaluations of the cruzeiro against the dollar are keeping up with inflation. The cumulative rate of minidevaluations through 8 July was 42.3 percent, compared with an inflation rate through June of 45.2 percent. "In this way the exporter is getting something extra, which is external inflation (by the end of the year it will be about 12 percent)," said Viacava.

Another aspect that will have a favorable impact on exports in the second half of this year is the 15-percent tax credit on the value of manufactured exports. Although enacted in April, the measure took a while to get through the bureaucratic channels of its implementation. Last month, however, its effects could already be felt. In June, exports of manufactured goods--the products entitled to the tax credit--increased about 25 percent over June 1980, raising the monthly total to \$1.926 billion--the second highest in the history of Brazilian exports except for May of last year, when it was \$1.936 billion. According to Viacava, these two measures--exchange policy and tax credit--require a more aggressive posture by exporters. "They are under pressure and for this reason will make an effort to show good results," he judges.

The third aspect inducing authorities to have hopes of reaching the end of the year with exports of about \$25 billion is the very seasonality of sales. Traditionally, the second half of the year shows better performance, in consequence of selling

agricultural crops. Last year, for example, it was beginning in September that the monthly export figures presented agreeable surprises for the government, rising from \$1.653 billion in July to \$1.916 billion in December.

Allied with this factor, meanwhile, there should be a recovery in the international prices of products such as coffee, soybeans, cocoa and sugar. Despite the abundant world crops in these products--the reason for prices being low--the Brazilian government is going on the assumption that there are no international reserve supplies of these products and that foreign interest rates will fall. However, the latest change in the cost of money was higher, rather than lower, with the prime rate (preferential rate in the U.S. market) rising from 20 percent to 20.5 percent.

Even with the annoyance caused by interest rates, which inhibit importers from making substantial purchases due to the higher cost of financing them, the commodities market is being favorable to Brazil. Viacava has put up a chart showing daily changes in international quotations on the grain exchange of New York and London for coffee, sugar, the soybean complex (beans, meal and oil), cocoa, orange juice and wheat. The data for last Wednesday showed higher prices for all products except orange juice (concentrated) and wheat (a product which Brazil imports) compared to the average in June. Cocoa had the greatest price increase, rising from an average of \$1,446 per ton on the New York exchange in June to \$1,917 on 15 July. On 1 July its price was \$1,651 per ton. Any increase in these quotations (excluding wheat) is a source of joy in the General Secretariat of the Finance Ministry.

Imports

The other side of the trade balance--imports--seems much less complicated and more promising in relation to initial forecasts by the government at this stage of events. The expectation of the Finance Ministry's secretary general is that the nation's expenditures for merchandise in the foreign market this year are increasing not at all or "slightly," compared with \$22.961 billion imported in 1980.

In regard to petroleum--the biggest import item (about \$10 billion this year)--Viacava believes that in the second half of the year the value of purchases will be the same as that of the second half of 1980 (\$4.5 billion). From January to June this year, oil imports totaled \$5.2 billion, compared with \$4.7 billion in the same period last year, representing an increase of 9 percent, which should be maintained until the end of the year.

Other imports, which declined by 6.6 percent in value during the first half of this year, compared with the January-June 1980 period--and which led to a decrease of almost 1 percent in the aggregate amount of imported goods--should begin increasing again in the next few months, although at a slower rate than during the same period last year. "It would be exaggerated optimism to think that this drop will continue in the second half of the year," Viacava figures.

During the first 6 months of 1981 the Brazilian economy did not require large purchases in the foreign market because it had stocks of merchandise formed last year and used during the period. The high cost of money contributed to this inventory liquidation. "Assuming that business will not come to a standstill during the second half of the year, an increase of imports is expected, although without

completely rebuilding inventories," the Finance Ministry secretary general believes. "Imports could fall to lower levels if we assumed a recession but, as the economy will continue to grow, imports will return to their normal pace during the second half of the year," Viacava adds. But he feels that "they are very likely to be the same as last year."

Exports (Millions of Dollars), January through May

<u>Category</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
Grand Total	8,929	7,540	+ 18.4
Commodities	3,632	3,092	+ 17.4
Industrialized Goods	5,213	4,370	+ 19.2
Semimanufactured Goods	822	842	- 2.4
Manufactured Goods	4,392	3,528	+ 24.4

Steepest Declines and Largest Increases During These 5 Months:

Commodities:			
Raw sugar	227	259	- 12.5
Cocoa Beans	57	70	- 18.6
Coffee Beans	753	1,031	- 27.0
Frozen Beef	29	1	--
Chicken	124	65	+ 90.7
Soybean Meal	816	500	+ 63.2
Leaf Tobacco	164	136	+ 20.5
Metallurgical Ores	756	581	+ 30.4
Soybeans	179	66	+171.2
Semimanufactured Goods:			
Crystal Sugar	27	70	- 61.5
Pig Iron	23	60	- 61.7
Soybean Oil	251	101	+148.5
Manufactured Goods:			
Instant Coffee	110	125	- 12.0
Cotton Thread	58	88	- 34.1
Iron and Steel Products	186	267	- 30.4
Cotton Cloth	37	59	- 37.3
Refined Sugar	168	125	+ 34.4
Footwear	220	151	+ 45.6
Canned Beef	120	96	+ 25.0
Transportation Equipment	714	490	+ 45.7
Automobiles	116	36	+221.0
Buses	48	26	+ 84.6
Tractors	71	56	+ 26.7
Freight Vehicles	126	64	+ 96.8
CKD Vehicles	119	64	+ 85.9
Refined Soybean Oil	36	4	+800.0
Orange Juice	227	186	+ 48.9

Imports (Millions of Dollars), January through May

<u>Category</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
Cereals, except Wheat	221	109	+102.7
Wheat	319	399	- 20.1
Petroleum	4,426	3,999	+ 10.7
Processed Plants, Seeds and Oil-bearing Fruit	132	46	+186.9
Fats and Oils	14	76	- 81.6
Chemical Products	835	1,079	- 22.7
Fertilizer	122	186	- 34.5
Boilers, Machines, Mechanical and Electrical Apparatus	1,315	1,454	- 10.6
Optical, Photographic and Musical Instruments	166	229	- 27.6

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CSO: 3001/221

CONCERN WITH MILITARY USE OF SPACE VEHICLES EXPRESSED

Rio de Janeiro 0 GLOBO in Portuguese 20 Jul 81 p 5

[Text] Brasilia--For the purpose of preventing militarization of cosmic space, Brazil, Egypt and other countries of the United Nations belonging to the Committee for Peaceful Uses of Space presented a proposal for an international agreement to prohibit placing any kind of weapon or ordnance equipment in outer space.

Itamaraty [Brazilian Foreign Affairs Ministry] sources express the profound concern of the Brazilian government with the possibility of spaceships of the Columbia type, new anti-satellite systems and the most modern technological apparatus in space being used for military purposes, extending the arms race between the superpowers far beyond the stratosphere.

The Committee for Peaceful Uses of Space has already approved some international treaties, among them those for denuclearizing the moon and other celestial bodies, rescue of astronauts, recovery of objects launched into space and responsibility for damages caused on earth by artificial satellites.

There is already a treaty that regulates the use of cosmic space, prohibiting launching nuclear weapons and regulating peaceful uses. Many countries, including Brazil, believe that the treaty does not adequately provide for new space technologies, as it was signed in 1967.

According to diplomatic sources, the treaty contains a loophole that can be used to launch into space veritable military centers capable of guiding missiles on earth and using the ABM [antiballistic missile] and satellite pursuit systems.

For these reasons the committee's new proposal intends to banish definitively any type of weapon or ordnance equipment from outer space, preserving its use for peaceful purposes.

A second controversial topic that was discussed during the recent meeting of the committee, concluded last week, is in regard to the proposals for regulating television transmissions by satellite. According to Itamaraty sources, the new technological progress in this field now permits direct transmission of a program by satellite, dispensing with the receiving station. These programs can be picked up directly by the television viewer on his home television set.

Brazil and some other members of the committee have been fighting for establishing principles or regulations that prevent, for example, messages that incite to violence or racial discrimination or dishonest advertising of consumer goods.

The United States advocates freedom to launch into space any type of programming, leaving the television viewer to decide whether or not to watch. All the viewer needs is a receiving antenna and a signal amplifier, portable equipment that is being sold for less than \$500 (50,000 cruzeiros). Brazil, the Soviet Union and most of the 47 member countries of the committee want to make transmission and reception of messages subject to consent of the state on the grounds that a nation is entitled to preserve aspects of its inhabitants' cultural or political identity.

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CSO: 3001/221

GUERREIRO VIEWS FRG NUCLEAR ACCORD, NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Jul 81 p 5

[Text] Brasilia--Foreign Affairs Minister Saraiva Guerreiro asserted yesterday that Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals "did not mean to say, in a recent statement, that the atomic agreement between Brazil and the FRG will be substantially modified." After recalling that, as foreign relations minister, he was not qualified to speak about the pace of construction under the nuclear agreement, Guerreiro assured that:

"I can say that the understanding between the parties has been to this day exemplary. The incidents along the way are normal and are absorbed naturally by the parties. It is rare that any large hydroelectric plant is built rigorously on schedule." The minister also made some comments about the Reagan administration's nuclear policy. "The tone and the attitude are more positive in regard to the nuclear problem in general. Specifically, the United States now appears, judging by the policy, to be a more reliable supplier."

Middle East

The foreign affairs minister acknowledges that "it is necessary to go beyond" the problem of the Middle East, "but it is difficult to imagine that Brazil alone could do that. Our possibility of action is limited."

In the foreign minister's opinion, Brazil has a "very clear position" on the subject and "the detail that the telegram from President Figueiredo to the president of Lebanon was not sent at the first moment does not represent any change of policy. Brazil believes the recent attack by Israel on Lebanon was unjustifiable and reprehensible from all points of view."

Guerreiro believes that Brazil has no reason to be "fearful or inhibited" regarding Iraq and denied that Baghdad is being used as an entryway for Brazilian penetration in the Arab world: "We do not use any country as an opening wedge in any region and we have good relations with all the Arab countries."

Moreover, the foreign minister does not feel that the visit of Planning Minister Delfim Netto to Moscow and the important conversations held there constitute any "political change" in Brazil's relations with the Soviet Union: "Our trade has been showing a stagnant or declining trend. We were selling more than we were buying. What was really new was the agreement about technological cooperation, putting it into a legal framework."

Saraiva Guerreiro did not directly answer a question about a possible reduction of ideological prejudice by certain sectors of Brazilian society in regard to the dialogue with communist countries:

"The sectors that I know anything about are very much in agreement that Brazil should explore possibilities of cooperation, within the limits of certain principles. We do not have exaggerated fears. We are not going to do anything on a naive basis. We scrupulously respect the principle of nonintervention. Within this framework it is possible to seek forms of cooperation."

Delfim Netto's trip to the People's Republic of China, according to the minister, will not signify any political change: "In this visit economic cooperation will be examined and an evaluation of the dialogue with Beijing will be made."

North-South

Brazil views the North-South dialogue in a "constructive spirit," Guerreiro said. He feels that there is not just one crisis due to the petroleum problem, the monetary crisis or the trade crisis. The foreign minister thinks it is important for industrialized and developing countries to be "mutually sensitive" to each other and he explains: "Let us not reach the shortsightedness of the 1930's after the Great Depression. We believe it is necessary to have faith in the expansion of the world economy."

In the communique about the meeting of the rich countries in Ottawa some points were mentioned that "have been reiterated," in Guerreiro's opinion. He spoke of one item that is of particular interest to Brazil: the subsidies paid by the rich countries to industries that are no longer competitive. This subsidy, in the minister's opinion, is one of the causes of the difficulty developing countries have in gaining access to international markets. The fact that the Ottawa communique referred to "global negotiations" represents, in the opinion of the Brazilian government, a "certain progress."

For the foreign minister, "the only thing new" in the Ottawa communique regarding developing countries is that "it contains more lines." In the North-South dialogue negotiations, the most important thing for Brazil, according to him, is trade.

Saraiva Guerreiro recalled further that Brazil has been using its "limited means" of action to cooperate bilaterally with the countries of Central America and the Caribbean: "In more general terms, its support has been more moral." He cited, as an example, the donation of \$5 million to the CARICOM and reaffirmed that the nation supports all initiatives by countries in a position to collaborate more fully, referring to the initiative of the United States in calling upon Mexico, Venezuela and Canada to expand their cooperation with that region.

The foreign-affairs minister said he speaks about visits of the president only after they have been announced officially by the governments. He gave this explanation for not saying directly whether there are prospects for a visit by Joao Figueiredo to Bolivia or by Gen Augusto Pinochet to Brazil.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN DEBT RISE--Brasilia--The gross Brazilian foreign debt at the end of May was \$55.4 billion, about \$1.5 billion more than the balance at the end of last year. According to the forecast of monetary authorities, this amount is likely to rise to \$60 billion by the end of this year. Discounting foreign reserves, which on 30 June were \$6.1 billion, the nation's net debt with foreign banks fell to \$49.3 billion. The director of the Foreign Area of the Central Bank, Jose Carlos Madeira Serrano, predicted a recuperation of these reserves by the end of the year, so that 1981 will close with \$6.9 billion. The increase of Brazil's foreign debt during the first 5 months of this year was \$500 million more than that of the same period last year, when the amount rose from \$50.5 billion on 31 December 1979 to \$51.5 billion on 31 May 1980. Central Bank technicians mentioned yesterday that the total foreign debt does not include short-term debt, contracted to honor immediate payments. With a payment period of less than 1 year, such debts are not counted along with the long-term debt. One of the Central Bank technicians disclosed that the amount of short-term debt is not \$10 billion as was reported recently. According to him, "it isn't all that much," although he has not reported the actual amount. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 Jul 81 p 19] 8834

JUNE UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES--From June of last year to June of this year unemployment increased in all metropolitan regions surveyed by the IBGE [Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics]: Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Belo Horizonte, Porto Alegre, Salvador and Recife. Compared with May, unemployment rose only in Rio de Janeiro: the rate rose from 8.87 percent to 8.91 percent. In Sao Paulo, it fell from 7.30 percent to 7.15 percent; in Belo Horizonte, from 9.56 percent to 8.98 percent; in Porto Alegre, from 6.39 percent to 5.96 percent; in Salvador, from 9.86 percent to 9.66 percent; and in Recife, from 8.97 percent to 8.51 percent. The actual number of unemployed in the regions surveyed is not furnished by the IBGE, which only reports the "rate of unemployment." In any event, comparing the rates of June 1980 with the rates of June this year, it is possible to verify that they increased 32.9 percent in Sao Paulo, 23.2 percent in Salvador, 22.4 percent in Recife, 20.6 percent in Porto Alegre, 14.8 percent in Belo Horizonte and only 11.9 percent in Rio de Janeiro. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 24 Jul 81 p 19] 8834

CSO: 3001/221

VARIOUS FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES DISCUSSED

Latin Dictatorships, CIA

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish May 81 p 2

[Editorial by Carlos Mora Herman: "Empire of Terror"]

[Text] A single story can be woven from the testimony offered by citizens of Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, Bolivia, Haiti and Argentina.

Arbitrary arrests can and do take place anywhere: in a cafe, a theater, the street, a factory or shop, or one's own home.

The perpetrators almost never identify themselves: they are heavily armed and use vehicles, often cornering the victim in the middle of the street and kidnaping him before the startled eyes of passersby.

They enter one's home by breaking down the door, search everywhere and tear the premises apart.

The persons thus seized are taken to a police station, military barracks or special location, where the dirty work of "making them talk" begins.

Some of the captors will mockingly ask: "What kind of torture do you prefer?" With profound cynicism they then explain to their victims that they can choose, because they live in a democracy.

Then the torture begins. The methods in current use are new, refined and scientific: blows that leave no trace, precise blows to preselected areas of the body, blows that produce terrible discomfort.

Great care is taken not to leave any marks on the body; to treat hematomas so that they will disappear; and to leave no visible evidence of the torture.

Certain doctors lend their effective cooperation in achieving the last-named objective; they examine the victims periodically to determine the extent to which the latter can withstand the torture and to prevent them from dying in the process.

All of this is going on today, right now, in a terrifying world in which terrorism is practiced at the level of state policy.

It is terrorism designed to curb popular rebellion: to dissuade the disaffected and those who are fighting for social change--change that cannot be postponed.

The government of the United States--through its operational arm, the Central Intelligence Agency--is utilizing its diplomatic representatives, embassies and consulates and its cultural, economic and political penetration to create, encourage and support terrorism throughout the Latin American continent and the rest of the world.

Some years ago a CIA agent, Dan Mitrione, who was training and preparing the Uruguayan forces of repression to torture and murder the revolutionary combatants, was executed by the Uruguayan Tupamaros.

This role of advisers, trainers, instructors and directors has been played--and is being played--by U.S. personnel in all countries where the regimes in power are employing repression as a means to remain in power.

Moreover, those cadres who are most highly qualified to practice torture and murder have been trained and coached in the schools which the United States maintains on its own territory and also in Panama and Puerto Rico.

Three and a half centuries ago the area which the United States occupies today was virgin territory occupied by diverse Indian nations who lived by farming, hunting and fishing.

The arrival of the whites and their rule sealed the fate of the Indians, who were massacred in the most brutal manner and with the use of terrorism by an incipient state which would impose its rule upon the broad plains of the Indians "at the point of a gun," to use the popular expression.

U.S. foreign policy has always been characterized by this braggadocio of the "cowboy" of the Western films, who settles everything by imposing his savage dominion and by the quickness of his draw or the quickness of his fists.

The primal instincts of bygone days persist, despite the tremendous development of U.S. society; and on repeated occasions that country gives the impression that it lives by the law of the jungle and the rule of brutality.

This was the case in connection with episodes such as the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and his brother Robert, and Martin Luther King; the murder of black children recently in the South; the violent deaths of Mexican immigrants in California; and other events that have imparted a special coloration to the history of that country during the past 20 years.

Toward the end of the last century, Jose Marti was already calling the United States "the boisterous and brutal North."

This "boisterous and brutal North" is the same "North" that is supporting, maintaining, training and arming the terrorists of the continent.

It is surprising that the nation which uses terrorism as an instrument of destabilization and which gives protection and asylum to the most prominent terrorists and criminals of the continent and the world is now attempting to launch a propaganda

campaign to brand as "terrorists" those who are fighting for independence and freedom and for their rights, especially the right to self-determination for their peoples.

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of the United States has participated in tens of acts of violence and murder committed on Latin American soil.

Suffice it to recall the invasion of Guatemala in 1954; the invasion of Cuba at Playa Giron in 1961; the invasion of the Dominican Republic in 1965; and the support given to Trujillo, Pinochet, Somoza, Stroessner and the genocidal junta in El Salvador.

The CIA has trained and prepared--for the commission of these crimes--terrorists of Cuban origin who have caused numerous deaths and gone unpunished because of the protection which Washington provides for its gunmen.

The CIA has hatched plots to assassinate heads of state of countries whose governments are not to the liking of the United States.

Now that government, with its bloody history--an empire that uses terror as a weapon to achieve domination and safeguard its interests--wants to tell the peoples of this continent what to do and tell them that the Sandinist combatants in Nicaragua, those who are fighting against the murderous junta in El Salvador, and the Guatemalan guerrillas are the terrorists.

Such an outrageous lie is devoid of any substance in the world of today.

Communist Party Congresses

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish May 81 p 21

[Article by Miguel Rivero: "An Example of Cohesion"]

[Text] During the month of April the congresses of the communist parties of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Democratic Germany performed the function of ratifying once again the irrevocable basic policy of safeguarding peace and international detente, supporting the movements of national liberation, and halting the arms race.

The 12th Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party opened on 31 March and concluded on 4 April. The Czechoslovak communists met from 6 to 10 April, and finally, the Unified Socialist Party of Germany (PSUA) held its 10th Congress from 11 to 16 April, several days before the 35th anniversary of its founding.

In all these forums it was clearly demonstrated that the enemies of detente and the advocates of the arms race were stirring up a climate of war, and that the danger of a conflagration of incalculable consequences for the human race was increasing.

The three congresses were held at a time when the progressive elements of mankind were demonstrating that the policy of the imperialists is designed to aggravate the international situation and hasten a return to the days of the "cold war" by reviving the manifestations of "anti-Sovietism" and creating the conditions for "psychological warfare," thereby debilitating the progress achieved in the struggle for detente and for peace.

The rostrums of these three assemblies of the communists of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and the GDR were utilized to call attention to the attacks on the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. The imperialists initially resorted to their unsuccessful campaign "in defense of human rights," and are now continuing the pursuit of their aims with an all-out offensive against genuine socialism, in a vain attempt to isolate the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community.

Sofia, Prague and Berlin provided the setting for ratification of the peace proposals formulated by the secretary general of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Leonid I. Brezhnev, and submitted to the 26th Congress of the CPSU, held from 23 February to 3 March.

Both the meeting of the Soviet communists and the meetings of the other three European parties were transformed into veritable international congresses by the massive presence of delegations from all parts of the world and in particular from the recently liberated peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

"Today there is no task more important on the international scene for our party, for our people and for all the peoples of our planet than safeguarding peace," Brezhnev proclaimed to the 26th Congress of the CPSU.

These were not mere rhetorical phrases. The secretary general of the Soviet party presented a detailed program of action which includes prior notification of military maneuvers that would extend to the entire European part of the USSR, on condition that there be corresponding publicity on the part of the Western states; the continuation, without delay, of the negotiations with the United States; the signature of an agreement to limit the deployment of new types of nuclear submarines; a moratorium on the emplacement of new nuclear weapons in Europe; and the convening of a special session of the Security Council--with the participation of the top leaders of the member states--"for the purpose of seeking the key to remedying the international situation and preventing war."

Not only did these proposals receive total support at the April congresses but the clamor for their immediate implementation--and for a positive response to them--has spread to Western Europe and to progressive sectors in the United States as well.

It could not have been otherwise, inasmuch as the European continent has not escaped the aggressive intentions of the imperialists, who are planning to install 572 nuclear devices on the "Old Continent" and aim them at the socialist community.

Those who are attempting to sell the notion that "a limited nuclear war is possible and acceptable" were dealt a stunning blow on the European scene when these sinister plans were exposed, and this served as an instructive warning that in a nuclear holocaust there would be no victors.

To be sure, the subject of the situation in Poland was also addressed at these three assemblies. The response can be summed up in one sentence: in the case of Poland a vigorous response to domestic and international reaction has become necessary, in order to ensure the successful development of socialism in that country.

These events serve in this respect, as in other respects, to highlight the unity and cohesion of the countries of the socialist community, which also reaffirmed the principle of support for the movements of national liberation and the principle of intensifying the relations of cooperation with the recently liberated countries.

In reviewing the successes achieved in the construction of the developed socialist society and the enhancement of the well-being of the people, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and the GDR ratified their internationalist policy in their capacity as a bulwark of peace and as distinguished exponents of the strength of socialism--the impassable barrier against the enemies of mankind.

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ARMANDO ACOSTA EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH KAMPUCHEA

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 14 Jun 81 p 3

[Speech given by Armando Acosta Cordero, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba and head of the Cuban delegation to the 4th Congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea]

[Text] Dear Comrades:

 ON BEHALF of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, its members and all our people, and especially of our first secretary, Comrade Fidel Castro, it is with deep satisfaction that I transmit to you, worthy representatives of the Communists of Kampuchea, our deep feelings of militant solidarity at this singular gathering: the 4th Congress of your Party.

The report presented to the Congress by esteemed Comrade Pen Sovan has shown how the Kampuchean Communists, loyal to Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, have always been in the vanguard of their heroic people's struggles both against the French colonialists and the Yankee imperialists, despite the great sacrifices involved. The report also points out how the Communists and the other Khmer patriots, under the banner of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation and with the militant solidarity of the Vietnamese Communists and people, defeated for good the genocidal regime of traitors Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan, submissive servants of Maoist expansionism. Now, the report notes, together with the rest of the population, the Communists are dedicating themselves with renewed enthusiasm to the task of rebuilding the country while defending every inch of their beloved country.

Solidarity has played a lofty role in your difficult struggle: the solidarity maintained during these years of constant battles by the fighters of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea; solidarity received from the sister nations of the socialist community and from all other peoples who champion peace and justice.

We are moved to see how in just over two years, on the ruins of a society subjected to the barbarous Maoist experiment

which resulted in the death of more than three million people and the destruction of their social and family patterns, the people are taking firm strides towards the restoration of all those values which had been trampled on.

The land is being worked again, the children are going to school, the health workers are striving to save human lives. Phnom Penh, which had arbitrarily been turned into a "dead city," has been revived by the activity of hundreds of thousands of people. They, with their creative work, the perfume of the flowers and the song of the birds have restored life to your beautiful capital.

Recently, you have experienced events of great revolutionary significance with the elections and the adoption of the new Constitution, which defines the path of socialism as the means of social development, reaffirms solidarity among the peoples of Indochina and states your willingness to have good relations with neighboring countries.

We rejoice over the success of the general elections to the National Assembly of the Republic for which the voters chose the best representatives of the workers, peasants and revolutionary intellectuals.

The process of institutionalization together with the holding of this historic 4th Congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea are unequivocal signs of the rapid progress of the Kampuchean Revolution and of its irreversible nature.

This valuable effort by the Kampuchean people has had to be made amid constant harassment by the reactionary forces that, although they have been ousted from power, keep trying to unite in a single counterrevolutionary bloc, grouping together the Pol Pot butchers; Sihanouk, the traitor; and all the other anticommunist scum. These elements have the backing of the Peking hegemonists and the Yankee imperialists. We are convinced that these maneuvers will fail thanks to the militancy and

staunch determination of the Kampuchean people.

Dear comrades, this important event of the Kampuchean Communists is taking place at a time when the world reactionary forces, especially the most aggressive sectors of Yankee imperialism, are steering their policy towards confrontation, using the warlike language characteristic of the cold war era and halting the policy of détente which the peace-loving forces of the world had firmly and patiently built up.

These sectors are fanning the flames of war; they are trying to turn Europe into an arsenal of new nuclear weapons directed against the Soviet Union and the other European socialist countries; they are heightening tension and the crisis in the Middle East; they are shamelessly backing the South African racists; they are obstructing the hopes to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace; and they dream of drowning the demands of the peoples for a better and fairer life in a bloodbath.

In Our America the imperialists' aggressiveness is being manifested with special force. The heroic sister people of El Salvador is being slaughtered with the complicity and intervention of the U.S. Government. The revolutionary processes in Nicaragua and Grenada are being threatened openly, and the most retrograde forces and the most repressive dictatorships in Latin America are being encouraged.

In Southeast Asia this policy takes on an especially virulent form via the Yankee link to the Peking expansionists. They are trying to subvert the Indochinese Revolution and obstruct the relations of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos with other governments of the area. In this respect, the proposals made at the conferences of foreign ministers of the Indochinese countries constitute a valuable contribution to the search for a political solution and a significant contribution to détente and peace in the area.

As you know, the imperialists have also stepped up their threats against our country.

They try to ignore history and speak of more drastic actions against Cuba, including a naval blockade, and they are even making noises about a direct attack. But the howling of the Washington wolves doesn't cause our people to lose any sleep, and with greater courage and determination, they daily fulfill the watchword that came out of the 2nd Congress of our Party: Production and Defense.

On May Day, more than a million men, women and children, along with our Territorial Troop Militia, paraded through historic Revolution Square in another militant demonstration, thus reaffirming their determination to destroy any attacker who tries to set foot on our socialist homeland, as they did 20 years ago at Giron.

Dear comrades and friends, the relations of fraternal friendship and militant solidarity between the peoples of Cuba and Kampuchea, which were forged and consolidated through our common struggle against Yankee imperialism and for a more just society, are now more solid and profound.

On this solemn occasion, we would like to reiterate the willingness of all our people to continue making their modest contribution to the historic task in which you are now involved to make the People's Republic of Kampuchea a prosperous and happy country marching steadily towards the socialist and communist future.

Long live the 4th Congress of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea!

Long live the indestructible brotherhood between the Parties and peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea!

Long live free People's Kampuchea!

Long live the Soviet Union!

Long live proletarian internationalism!

Long live socialism and communism!

PCC MESSAGE TO PZPR CONGRESS READ BY RODRIGUEZ

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 26 Jul 81 p 6

[Text] Warsaw, July 15 (PL).--Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba, said today that the 9th Special Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP) was a far-reaching event in the life of the Polish nation.

The Cuban leader spoke today before the Congress, which opened here yesterday. The following is the full text of his speech:

Comrade Chairman of the Session:
Esteemed Delegates and Guests to the 9th
Congress of the Polish United Workers'
Party:

I bring fraternal greetings from the first socialist state on the American continent, sent to you by the Cuban workers, our Communist Party and its first secretary, Comrade Fidel Castro.

The 9th Congress of the PUWP is a far-reaching event in the life of the Polish nation. But it is much more than that. The decisions adopted here, the way the problems now affecting Polish society and its Party are dealt with and resolved, the way past mistakes that have been identified and criticized in your discussions are corrected, all of these are of keen interest to the entire socialist community and the world revolutionary and progressive movement.

The enemies of socialism — who are unquestionably the enemies of Poland, for it is only through socialism that Poland can guarantee its national consolidation and independence — are trying to take advantage of the events that have occurred here to discredit the socialist regime, undermine the foundations of socialist society in Poland, tear Poland away from its sister nations, alter the balance of forces in Europe and the world and thus continue the international activity that they have set in motion and that again endangers peace and the peoples' national independence.

In the midst of the tensions that are rocking the world and as a part of them,

the problems now facing the Polish Communists are our own problems. That is why humanity's best forces have focused their attention on this hall today.

The traditions of Poland, of its working class, of its people, give us confidence. Within the next few days it will be the 37th anniversary of the historic moment which the Polish people have accurately named "the rebirth of Poland." Whatever may be the critical considerations of the people and the Polish Communists in their analysis of the last few decades, the efforts and the obvious achievements of socialism are ever present. That is why, in the midst of all the difficulties and contradictions of the last while, we have always heard this irrevocable statement: "Poland is and will continue to be a socialist country."

The lofty patriotic, revolutionary and internationalist tradition of the Polish people and their great class consciousness reaffirm that decision.

The people, who faced with so much oppression upheld and defended their national identity and courageously resisted the Nazis, have moral and patriotic reserves to solve the complex tasks that lie ahead today.

Imperialism is mobilizing all its resources in order to activate and encourage its anti-socialist and antirevolutionary reserves for the purpose of turning the process of rectification, which the Polish Communists consider necessary, into a struggle against socialism.

These traditions of the Polish people and its working class give us hope that the results of the 9th Congress will contribute not only to safeguarding the healthy and patriotic aspirations of the Polish people and workers but also strengthening socialism and thereby guaranteeing the world process towards peace.

I convey to you the Cuban Communists' sincere hope that from this Congress will emerge a strengthened, more cohesive Polish United Workers' Party, reaffirmed as an unfailing and militant detachment that will firmly apply, creatively but soundly, the principles of Marxism-Leninism and resolutely join in the common struggle for socialism, the peoples' liberation and peace.

Today humanity is living through moments of anxiety and danger. The most aggressive and reactionary forces of U.S. imperialism are bent on recovering their world domination, imposing a global policy based on blackmail and military superiority, threatening the socialist countries and forcing the revolutionary and democratic movement, which has won so many important victories over the past few years, to retreat.

While with sly hypocrisy the imperialists feign concern for the problems of the Polish people, they dump the crisis of capitalism on millions of jobless people in their own countries; advocate, in the name of helping the economy, the abolition of social benefit programs that the workers had won for themselves through unrelenting efforts; and keep the peoples of the so-called Third World in backwardness and poverty.

At the same time they seek to force the deployment of nuclear weapons on Western Europe, unmindful of the catastrophe that might afflict the European peoples. Claiming a senseless right to military superiority over the Soviet Union, they are blocking détente and renewing the arms race.

They are providing weapons to the bloodiest and most repugnant regimes of our time. They are exacerbating the most ferocious forms of fascism, racism, anticommunism and anti-Sovietism everywhere.

They are strengthening their ties with the South African racists, intervening to prop up the genocidal regimes in El Salvador and Guatemala, plotting to destroy the Nicaraguan and Grenadian Revolutions, encouraging the Chilean and Uruguayan fascists, and continuing to deprive the Palestinian people of their inalienable national rights.

Towards this goal, they dream of carrying their provocations and reactionary maneuvers to the heart of the socialist community itself. In the light of such threats it is clear that our own strength lies in our ideology, our unity, our unshakable cohesiveness, our faithfulness to Marxism-Leninism and the principles of proletarian internationalism.

The historical role played by the Soviet Union as the main guarantee of the invincibility of socialism is also becoming increasingly clear. As time goes by more and more peoples choose to march along the path to socialism and communism.

Confronted by their aspirations, we Communists from the countries where socialism has already been established have an enormous historical responsibility. Communists have always been extraordinary examples of dedication, heroism, incorruptible honesty and courageous criticism and self-criticism.

What makes us invincible is not that we are infallible but that we know how to correct our mistakes vigorously and promptly, supported by the masses and acting with absolute loyalty to the working people. The imperialists and their allies are today trying to prove that they can make socialism retreat.

That is the challenge with which we are now faced. We are committed before history, before the peoples and before the communist movement to reaffirm that socialism is irreversible when principles are applied and to prove that when the Party is united with the masses and serves them with complete dedication no retreat is possible.

Esteemed comrades, for over 20 years the Cuban people have had to heroically face aggressions of every kind launched by the U.S. imperialists.

But they have not succeeded in defeating us. Today we modestly but proudly exhibit a new nation to the world, rich in economic, political and social achievements and built thanks to the sacrifice, the efforts and the blood of all the people; the solidarity of workers and peoples the world over; and the unselfish and decisive aid given to us by the countries of the socialist community, very particularly the Soviet Union.

With their aggressive arrogance and their determination to increase tension everywhere, the current rulers of the United States have stepped up their threats against our country. Added to the shameful economic blockade imposed on us over 20 years ago are new acts of hostility supplemented by a threatened military blockade.

The Cuban people have responded with total mobilization under the slogan of "production and defense" issued by the 2nd Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba. We can say to our Polish brothers and sisters that today more than ever our country is not only making important progress in production but is also establishing itself as an impregnable bastion in defense of its achievements, its principles and the socialist system chosen by it.

We want peace and we are dedicating constant efforts to that goal, but we will never retreat in the face of aggression.

Comrades, the friendship between the Polish and Cuban peoples and between the Communists of the two countries has been forged by the common desire to move forward in the construction of socialism on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

This friendship dates back to the last century, when Polish patriot Carlos Roloff fought bravely in our wars of independence. It will be further enriched in the future through fraternal cooperation, unity of action against imperialism and in favor of social justice, independence for all peoples and peace.

The future belongs completely to communism. Conquering the future is a duty and the greatest honor that can be bestowed on a revolutionary. The ideals envisioned

by Marx of a new world built by the workers is becoming a reality.

By learning from our own mistakes we will turn socialism into an increasingly beautiful reality, more firmly based on the aspirations of the people. The triumphant banners of the proletariat, stained red with the blood of millions of workers, will keep moving forward. And we are certain that marching among the standard-bearers will be the honorable sons and daughters of the heroic Polish people.

Long live proletarian internationalism!

Long live socialism and communism!

Long live the indestructible friendship between the peoples and Communists of Poland and Cuba!

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ERRATUM: In JPRS 78742, 13 August 1981
No 2352 of this series, pp 14-17 article
EDUCATION MINISTER REVIEWS EDUCATION PROCESS
was incomplete. It is reprinted here to
include missing portion.

ERRATUM: EDUCATION MINISTER REVIEWS EDUCATION PROCESS

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY in English 5 Jul 81 pp 3-4

[Text]

Comrade Deputies:



IT GIVES me great satisfaction to present to the National Assembly of People's Power this report on the achievements, difficulties, shortcomings and immediate perspectives of education in our country. Since the document was sent to you in advance you will by now have been able to verify how the changes introduced in the field of education over the past 22 years of revolutionary endeavor are amply and minutely recorded in it. My task now is to elaborate on its fundamental aspects, making reference also to the Ministry of Higher Education, which is an integral part of the National Education System.

It is truly a wide gap that separates our present educational development from what existed before the Revolution. Before 1959, education was conditioned by economic, cultural and social underdevelopment, and throughout the history of the neocolonial republic it was one of the sectors that showed the utter neglect and lack of attention with which it was regarded. Schools today, with their principals, teachers, students, administrative and service staffs, are genuine state institutions for learning and teaching. Under the direction of the Party and supported by the youth and mass organizations, they are fully integrated into the process of constructing a new socialist society, a society of which they are one of the main products.

The population census taken in 1953 revealed the deplorable conditions education was in at that time. Out of a population of 4.4 million people over ten years of age, 1 032 000 were totally illiterate — 23.6 percent of that population. A total of 547 000 children between six and 12 years of age were not enrolled in school, and school attendance of those that were enrolled averaged 60.8 percent.

Nowadays Cuba is one giant school: one out of every three inhabitants is studying. If we exclude children under six, the figure becomes one out of every two.

The average educational level of the population is 6th grade, and conditions now exist for raising that average by approximately one grade every three years.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's description of education before the Revolution in *History Will Absolve Me* is an impressive accusation:

"Our educational system is perfectly compatible with everything I've just mentioned. Where the peasant doesn't own the land, what need is there for agricultural schools? Where there is no industry, what need is there for technical and vocational schools? Everything follows the same absurd logic; if we don't have one thing we can't have the other. In any small European country there are more than 200 technical and vocational schools; in Cuba only six such schools exist and the graduates have no jobs for their skills. The little rural schoolhouses are attended by a mere half of the school-age children — barefooted, half-naked and undernourished — and frequently the teacher must buy necessary school materials from his own salary. Is this the way to make a nation great?"

The panorama presented by the old society in 1958 can be summarized in the following figures. Only 56.4 percent of the children were enrolled in elementary school, and just 88 000 teenagers attended intermediate level schools; 10 000 teachers were unemployed and the budget of the Ministry of Education amounted to just 79.4 million pesos (11 pesos per inhabitant). What actually went into education was substantially less since many millions found their way into the pockets of the corrupt politicians of the time.

But depressing as it was, that situation could not prevent Cuban public schools from always being a storehouse of the fighting history of our people, their heroes and the best cultural traditions of Cuban nationality. The thoughts of prominent teachers of the last century — Varela, Luz Caballero and Mendive; the teachings of Martí; the unyielding rebelliousness of Frank País and Pepito Tey; these are some of the highest expressions of the patriotism of many Cuban educators who did their best to build better schools and a greater nation.

And today over 1.5 million children in that nation are attending elementary school and over 1 170 000 teenagers are enrolled in intermediate education; some 200 000 future professionals are being trained at university level; over 950 000 students in the various types and levels of education are reaping the benefits of boarding and semi-boarding schools; we now have over 210 000 educational workers, a political, ideological, scientific and technical force whose professional level is constantly rising. In this nation we have earmarked 1349 million pesos annually for educational expenses, equivalent to 138 pesos a year per inhabitant.

The Revolution inherited a centralized and corrupt educational administration, public schools that lacked everything, while the private schools were attended by the children of the privileged class, whose uniforms served to emphasize class divisions instead of identifying the type or level of education being received by children and young people.

The same evils also afflicted the universities. Enrollment there was structured to conform essentially to the interests of the bourgeoisie instead of to the needs of the country's development. For the sons and daughters of the working class, admission opportunities were practically nil. But historical tradition and prevailing objective conditions meant that the student body claimed the higher education centers as bases for agitation and struggle against corrupt politicians and against dictatorships like those of Machado and Batista, that shed so much of our people's blood.

Immediately after the triumph of the Revolution, profound changes began to be introduced in education. Examples of how the educational services were expanded in the first years were the creation of 10 000 new schools, particularly in the countryside; the conversion of army barracks into schools; and the nationalization of all private schools.

A shortage of teachers and professors was the greatest difficulty that educational development came up against in these years. But we always found revolutionary solutions. To bring education into the country's remotest areas, 3000 volunteer teachers signed up to go to the mountains and later set up the Frank País Vanguard Teachers' Brigade.

Launched in early 1961, the Ana Betancourt educational project was aimed at improving the cultural level of peasant women and helping them along the path to true liberation. Over 150 000 young girls from the mountains improved their school education and then were able to contribute to the transformation of our countryside and to take part in other tasks of the Revolution.

The Literacy Campaign, coming at the time of the great victory at Playa Giron, was another of the Cuban people's great achievements. Besides its huge educational value, it was also a key factor in the country's economic and social development. Its martyrs, Conrado Benítez (teacher), Manuel Ascunce Domenech (student-teacher) and Delfín Sen Cedré (worker-teacher), all murdered by bandits in the Escambray Mountains, gave their lives to this epic endeavor.

The result of that battle was something priceless: a new principle, a concept of education which copes with it integrally, including its social aspects. This is summarized in one of our slogans: "Education is a task for us all."

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Literacy Campaign and it gives us great revolutionary pride that

other peoples of the world can benefit from the experience it gave us.

After the Campaign, a mass scholarship project was announced. The first group of scholarship holders was made up of 40 000 literacy teachers. Many of the rich mansions of the bourgeoisie who had fled the country were used for this huge project, and the residential suburbs of Havana and other cities were soon overflowing with the sons and daughters of workers and peasants.

All these measures contributed to meeting the basic educational needs of children and teenagers in urban and rural areas, without distinctions of sex, race, place of residence and economic level; and in spite of the legacy of past neglect, the Moncada program was quickly carried out.

As of 1961, day-care centers were established, open to children after their 45th day of life, providing care and education in a healthy and happy environment and enabling a growing number of women to start working and take active part in the life of the society. By March 1981 over 96 000 children were enrolled in 832 day-care centers, but for several reasons places available are still below demand.

From 1959 to 1974, elementary school enrollment figures showed a steady rise. In 1975 they began to drop as a consequence of a reduction in the number of students in grades below those normal for their age group, and later because of the lowering in the birthrate. The figure now is 1 592 000 students. Owing to the large number of those who have reached the 6th grade, starting in 1972 intermediate education began to grow steadily, and accordingly higher education enrollment figures went up too. Over the five-year period just ended (1976-80), intermediate education enrollment figures went from some 629 000 students to over 1 177 000.

Special educational programs for children and young people with physical and mental handicaps and behavior problems did not exist at all before the Revolution. This year they had an enrollment of 28 000 students. In spite of the increase registered in this branch over the last few years it is still not possible to meet all needs, especially those of minors with serious behavior problems who run the risk of getting worse if they are not given adequate treatment. Steps to solve this problem are being taken at present.

The adult education program has played a leading role in helping to increase the cultural level of our people. It was organized in the wake of the Literacy Campaign and has given more than 1 400 000 people a 6th-grade education, through the systematic effort of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, the other mass organizations and the Ministry of Education. Our workers have already started the Battle for the 9th Grade, and are resolutely determined to emerge victorious and make their contribution to the economic and social development of the country.

The Revolution has always paid attention to the training of teachers and professors. The various teacher training programs which existed up to 1976 have been combined in a national network of schools in charge of training teachers to work in schools, preschools, and special education and as school librarians. The higher pedagogical institutes train personnel for teaching the intermediate levels and the Institute of Educational Improvement for working people.

All elementary school teachers who started working without the required training have now graduated. This is a very important step towards the general improvement of the quality of teaching and education as a whole, and is in line with a resolution adopted at the 1st Congress of the Party.

We should mention the important role played by the Manuel Ascunce Domenech University Pedagogical Detachment, which made it possible for students to continue studying at a time when there was a big enrollment boom at the intermediate levels.

In his closing speech at the 2nd Congress of the Young Communist League (UJC), Comrade Fidel posed the need for Cuban youth to organize a movement of 10th-grade students who would be trained as professors, combining their studies with teaching activities. This would go down in educational history as an example of a revolutionary solution, which was carried out with enthusiasm and rigor. The UJC has played a very important role in all this.

There are now more than 162 000 students in the various teacher training institutes. Of these nearly 61 000 correspond to higher pedagogical institutes, whose enrollment was only 5000 some ten years ago.

Following the victory of the Revolution more than 151 000 teachers and professors have graduated and have been active protagonists in the drive for educational development. They have made it possible for us to make our internationalist contribution to sister nations: right now more than 3500 Cuban teachers and professors are fulfilling this lofty mission in Nicaragua, Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia and other parts of the world and by next September there will be 4500.

The training of skilled workers and intermediate technicians has also been given top priority.

In 1959 there were merely three dozen official institutions for technical and professional training, with an enrollment of 15 000 students. In this school year there are 403 institutions with an enrollment of 228 000 students. These figures include educational institutions which are under the jurisdiction of other state agencies and over which the Ministry of Education has methodological control.

To meet the needs of the national economy there are 110 careers for intermediate technicians and 125 for skilled workers, divided into 16 branches. The objective is to turn out specialists with a wide range of abilities.

The social and ideological factors existing prior to the Revolution which excluded women from nearly all technical professions have virtually disappeared. In the current school year, 45.7 percent of the student body, that is, more than 104 000 students, are women.

Since the victory of the Revolution more than 258 000 technicians and skilled workers have graduated from the National Education System, not to mention those of other agencies.

In many schools we have confronted problems in the training of students due to a lack of equipment, antiquated technology, shortage or lack of material for practical work and, in some cases, the lack of workshops. To all this we must add that many production or service enterprises have not offered students possibilities for on-the-job training.

All of these factors, together with the lack of technical bibliography and trained teachers, have adversely affected the academic level of many graduates. Resolution No. 356 of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers provides for the furnishing of these institutions

with the specialized materials they need and care and upkeep of such material by the corresponding agencies and local organs of People's Power. This has led to great improvements and we are pressing to see that it is fully implemented.

The victory of the Revolution laid the groundwork for the transformation of higher education. The 1962 university reform set guidelines of the highest importance for its development.

In the 1959-1960 academic year there were 28 university disciplines. Now there are 144 disciplines, in keeping with the needs of the economy, science and culture. Higher education students have been encouraged to participate in scientific and technical activity, research, and links between study and work, in accordance with the requirements of their professional training.

In 1959 there were three official universities. The national educational network now contains 39 institutions of higher learning, covering nearly all the provinces. Enrollment has increased from about 15 000 students to a present figure of nearly 200 000. Of this figure 51 percent are workers who are also studying. There are also more than 7000 Cuban students training in the socialist countries, some 6300 of them in the Soviet Union.

Now all children and young people who finish the 6th or 9th grade can be sure of going on to study at the different institutions that make up the national network. Nearly 16 000 children and young people from various countries, mainly Africans and Nicaraguans, are able to study in our country as an expression of Cuba's internationalist policy.

During the period 1976-80 the number of graduates from all institutions of the National Education System was as follows:

- 1 293 000 elementary school students, more than the total of such graduates in the first 16 years of the Revolution;
- 574 800 junior high school students, 7.2 times more than in the previous five-year period;
- 105 100 senior high school students, 4.4 times more than in the previous five-year period;
- 165 500 skilled workers and intermediate technicians, four times more than the previous five-year period;
- 67 400 elementary school teachers, 3.6 times more than in the previous five-year period;
- 755 000 adults achieving the 6th grade, 115 000 graduating from junior high schools and 45 000 from the worker-farmer university extension program;
- 25 500 junior high school teachers graduating from special part-time courses;
- 2473 physical education teachers;
- 62 562 graduates from institutions of higher education, including 23 800 teachers of intermediate education. This figure is 2.7 times more than the previous five-year period.

In the field of intermediate education the figures for the last five years are about equal to the total number of graduates from 1902 to 1975, not including the adults.

As can be seen, one of the biggest achievements of the last decade has been the flow of students through the National Education System. This has meant that during the 1976-80 period there has been a big change in the "educational pyramid" — the ratio between elementary, intermediate and higher education enrollment. In 1958, out of every 100 students, 88.7 were in elementary

school, 11 in intermediate education and 0.3 in higher education. Now the ratio is very different: 54 in elementary education, 40 in intermediate education and six in higher education. The pyramid is thus very similar to those of the developed countries.

The big increase in graduates from junior and senior high school made it possible to increase entry requirements from 6th to 9th grade for teacher training and schools training skilled workers and intermediate technicians, and from junior to senior high for higher pedagogical institutes. These measures will be very important in raising the academic standard of future professionals.

In order to help accomplish these aims, 1577 new educational institutions have been built in the last ten years at a cost of more than 1500 million pesos.

This whole process of educational development has been carried out amidst an intense class struggle characterized by direct confrontation with imperialism, its attacks, its economic blockade and its diversionary ideology.

The leading role taken by our glorious Communist Party in formulating and correctly implementing educational policy has facilitated these educational transformations and the work done by our people in education. The theses and resolutions adopted at the 1st and 2nd Party Congresses clearly stated the objectives, indications and guidelines which our schools are applying towards the communist upbringing of new generations.

The support of society as a whole for educational tasks, a factor of great importance, is reflected in the school itself; we see the influence of the Party, the UJC, the Trade Union of Workers in Education and Science, the José Martí Pioneer Organization, the Federation of Students of Intermediate Education and the Federation of University Students.

The school councils and parents' committees are important means for linking the educational institutions and day-care centers with the community. The family is represented in them, along with members of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, the Federation of Cuban Women, the National Association of Small Farmers and the unions. Their aim is to ensure that the schools and day-care centers fulfill their social responsibility.

Together with the extension of educational services there has been a substantial change in the role played by the school in the upbringing of children and young people. An important contribution towards this objective has been made by linking study and work. Steps towards this were first taken in 1962 in the mountains of the eastern part of the country and continued in Camagüey and other provinces until it became nationwide, with the implementation of the program known as the School Goes to the Countryside. Full realization of the idea of combining study and work was achieved with the schools in the countryside, conceived by Fidel and based on the application of this important pedagogical principle set forth by Marx and Martí.

Linking the school to society as a whole has been a constant concern of the Revolution. The students are directly influenced by the Revolution and whenever they have been called upon to carry out extraordinary tasks they have responded enthusiastically and conscientiously. A clear indication of how the children, adolescents and young people of Cuba think and act has been their incorporation into the difficult and complex tasks posed by the Revolution. Their participation in productive work

and internationalist tasks, their zealous mass participation in the March of the Fighting People, their integration into the Territorial Troop Militia in response to the threat of armed attack, are examples of the revolutionary feelings of our young people.

The intense work done in the educational field from the very start of the Revolution had its share of problems and shortcomings. However, the valuable pedagogical experiences which we were accumulating and the level of development reached laid the foundation for defining and facing up to the necessary changes.

The Congress on Education and Culture held in 1971 became a debate among Cuban educational personnel which shed light on their political and ideological awareness. It also posed the need for a profound study of the contents of education in order to resolve the incongruities in the curricula and programs, the lack of coordination, the fact that in some fields we were not keeping pace with the development of science and technology, the acute shortage of personnel and materials. Furthermore, the insufficient enrollment capacity in intermediate education, the problem of children who started school late or had to repeat grades. This led to a "bottleneck" in elementary school enrollment and underlined the urgent need to search for solutions to these problems.

Thus we had to revolutionize the very concepts of education. This led to the Plan for the Improvement of the Education System, whose objective was to make education conform to the society we are building, that is, provide the new generations with the appropriate political, intellectual, scientific, technical, physical, moral, aesthetic, polytechnical, work and patriotic-military training. We had to give the National Education System a scientific foundation in line with the methodological and organizational principles of socialist pedagogy.

The Plan's first stage was one of diagnosis and analysis, which revealed the lack of a coherent system of general education. There was a structure for dealing with the different educational levels but without a systematic concept. Elementary schools were supervised by a leadership which structured its activity vertically in relative interdependence with the junior high schools, and these, in turn, with the senior highs. We did not have the current concept of general polytechnical and labor education which covers elementary and intermediate levels and which now constitutes the core of the system.

Technical and professional education was also structured in a vertical manner with no links to general education, leading to incongruities in the contents of education.

Training of teachers was handled by various branches of the Ministry of Education and there were no links to the general education for which teachers were being prepared. A similar lack of coordination existed in other branches.

In order to solve these problems we had to improve the National Education System, focusing on integrity, interrelationships and links that determine its structure. It also had to ensure the harmony of objectives, content and methods along with continuity of education and the organization of teaching and educational work.

In general terms, the results of the initial stages of the Plan have been satisfactory. It has succeeded not only in introducing new curricula and textbooks and defining material needs, but has also come up with a new educational structure and a series of extracurricular activities

to confront this gigantic task. All this has contributed to increasing the students' educational level.

The 1st Congress of the Party approved and determined the objectives and scope of the Plan; it determined the social function of school, its guiding role; the need to strengthen educational work and to train and constantly improve the teacher's qualifications as a political and educational cadre in charge of introducing new plans, programs and textbooks.

We also worked out a plan for upgrading the teaching staff so that they would be acquainted with the educational programs and materials before they were applied. Various methods have been used to accomplish this, including seminars and classroom visits aimed at improving methodology.

In this complex task and the radical changes it implies, problems naturally arise as a result of the process of development and the objective and subjective conditions under which plans were elaborated and applied. Also involved is the struggle between the new and old.

The main problems and shortcomings in the implementation of the Plan have resulted from inadequate understanding of the new programs, incorrect use of educational methods and means, lack of materials, inadequate methodological training, and lack of rigor and a demanding attitude in applying evaluation norms.

We have taken the necessary measures to cope with all these problems, such as the recently concluded seminar for heads of departments and teachers of mathematics, physics and chemistry and guidelines for remedial work in Spanish, reading and math.

We have been aided in all this work by specialists from the USSR and the GDR, who have offered us their valuable experiences.

We must stress that this is a permanent process which will lead to new and more complex scientific and pedagogical tasks.

As a result of the institutional changes made from 1976 on, the new structure of leadership and administration in education on the municipal, provincial and national levels has helped consolidate plans for educational development all over the country and has led to substantial improvements. There has been notable progress in the field of inspection and methodological aid, as shown by the fact that from January 1977 to May 1981, the Ministry of Education alone carried out 978 inspection visits to provincial departments, 2576 to municipal departments and 23 420 to individual schools.

School organization is today accorded the priority it deserves as the basis for the work of the school and the decisive factor in the education of children and young people.

Efficient school organization means fulfillment of the schedule, daily and otherwise; fulfillment of norms for productive work; attendance and punctuality of leaders, teachers and professors, students and noneducational workers; taking full advantage of the workday; respecting social and individual property; observing standards of proper behavior and personal appearance; and maintaining proper relations between students and teachers within a framework of socialist morals.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION SERVES AS THE BASE FOR THE ENTIRE TEACHING ACTIVITY OF THE SCHOOL

There are institutions that have come a long way in this field and, as a whole, progress has been made. However, other centers continue to have problems and shortcomings, such as absences and lack of punctuality on the part of teachers and professors, which has an adverse effect on the students. This situation is particularly acute in rural areas.

In order to improve the quality of elementary schools we must establish both morning and afternoon sessions. Only 27 percent of all students are now attending two sessions a day and in some provinces, such as Las Tunas, Granma and Guantánamo, virtually none are. Given the gradual decline in elementary school enrollment, we will be able to gradually increase the number of students attending two sessions a day.

The basic organizational form of education is the classroom. It is here where the main objectives of the school programs and curricula are fulfilled. Results this year reflect progress over previous years, but are not 100 percent satisfactory since inspections have detected a number of deficiencies. Because of this we are strengthening methodological work and systematic control, because all classes must be good ones, increasing their level in accordance with our development.

An important element in the teaching and educational process is evaluation, which controls results and serves to guide its direction.

The evaluation system makes it possible to detect the educational problem in time so that teachers and students can adopt the necessary measures to prevent irreversible failures at the end of the school year. It is designed to anticipate the nonfulfillment of goals and any setbacks in learning, and it seeks to encourage the students and overcome their shortcomings.

The inspections made have shown that the evaluation system is not fully mastered in all cases and that its application does not always abide by the established norms. These difficulties are found at the various levels and subsystems. We found one example of this in the first two grades of elementary education, where some students were promoted without justification.

Upon completing 1st grade, all the students are supposed to move on to 2nd grade, along with their teachers. In 2nd grade, teachers should work with those who have shortcomings in order to bring them up to par with the rest of the class. No student should be promoted to 3rd grade unless he has mastered the objectives of the preceding grades. Promoting any student unable to read and write to 3rd or a higher grade constitutes a violation.

Investigations made showed that out of over 900 000 students in 3rd to 6th grades, a little over 28 000, or 2.9 percent, couldn't read or write. Today this figure has dropped by more than half, thanks to the steps taken to remedy such irregularities. Although the figure is not significant, to us one single student wrongly promoted merits special attention.

We are also working to remedy the poor preparation of senior high school graduates due, among other factors, to lack of correct study habits and academic discipline.

Promotion is the fundamental indicator of the efficiency of teaching and educational work. It should be the result of the proper organization of daily work, the sound application of the system of teaching principles, the systematic upgrading of the teaching staff, individual and collective study on the part of the students, an enthusiastic emulation program, rigorous educational work and close ties with all student, political and mass organizations.

Promotion should respond to systematic and serious work on the part of the teaching staff and it must necessarily become a struggle for quality. The goal is that all the students be promoted on the basis of mastering the required knowledge.

The goal of the school is that all the students get satisfactory results, as a consequence of good teaching and educational work. The teacher's dedicated and selfless efforts, the creation of a favorable environment for study and work, the careful attention to individual differences, the encouragement of every student and the maintaining of high standards are all fundamental aspects in achieving high rates of promotion. In no way can the application of evaluation norms imply concessions that conspire against academic rigor.

In our commander in chief's own words:

"Promotion is a very important question. No promotion can take place if the requirements have not been fulfilled. Now, when we speak about the quality of promotion, this does not by any means imply that the rate is unimportant. A promotion rate of 40, 50 or 60 percent is not good enough. Therefore, we must struggle for top promotion with top quality. That's our task, that's the slogan that sums it all up. I repeat, top with top."

Promotion rates obtained since 1975 are high and this is a big improvement over the results obtained during the 1960-1970 period. This is especially so if we consider the enrollment boom in intermediate education as of the 1975 school year and the requirement that students pass all subjects before going on to the next grade. Over the last five years the promotion rate has been stabilized, but we must take a more demanding attitude and pay greater attention to quality.

Likewise, prevention of dropouts is a concrete example of the results of the schools' work. In the 1959-69 period, retention rates were very low and although great progress was made in the period between 1970 and 1980, they are still not satisfactory. In the last few years of the preceding five-year period there was a slight drop in the intermediate level, affecting the enrollment rate in the 13-16 age group.

At the start of the 1980-81 school year, the rate for this age group was 79.8 percent, considering population estimates and official enrollment figures for each age group.

According to a study undertaken in February 1980 in cooperation with the State Committee for Statistics which covered 28 municipalities and 23 percent of the population in this age group, 92.5 percent of the young people were in school. However, we must await the results of the upcoming census to confirm this and determine the real magnitude of the problem.

Among the factors which cause dropouts are problems of a sociocultural nature, such as marriage at an early age, which affected some 11 000 students in the 1979-80 school year. Schools will win the battle against dropouts with efficient work and the backing of the school councils, political and mass organizations, the family and

society as a whole, and with the elimination of the socioeconomic and cultural factors which have an adverse effect on certain segments of the population.

Educational work can be characterized as a continuous process of shaping the personality of the child or young person. This is a complex task because it is not limited to the school alone. The home life, the example of the parents and teachers, the influence of fellow students, friends, radio and TV programs, cinema; activities of the student organizations and the community in general must form a single coherent, multifaceted system. That is why integral education work directed towards a common objective is so important; all pertinent social factors must come into play.

The school undoubtedly plays the key role in this series of factors. In every educational institution, educational work is carried out in the classroom, in the laboratory, in the workshops, in the cafeteria, the lounges, dormitories, as well as in political, ideological, productive, sports, recreational and cultural activities; that is, educational work is present in every aspect of student life.

Educational work also involves school organization; teaching itself; the work of political and ideological training; correct combination of study and work; vocational training and professional guidance; art education; physical education and sports; participation of the school in political and patriotic-military education, the teaching of Marxism-Leninism; norms of acceptable social conduct, an understanding of ethical values and establishment of a favorable climate for study and work.

Our goal is that educational work be adequately reflected in the upbringing of children and young people. We have made progress in this field but much still remains to be done in order to achieve satisfactory results in all educational institutions. In some cases this work is not accorded the importance it merits; each and every one of the factors is not always dealt with in an integral fashion and at times the work is done in an irregular, routine and superficial manner.

At boarding schools, where the student spends the major part of his time, educational work becomes even more important.

Notable progress has been made in these institutions during the course of this school year, but there are still schools which require great attention and help so that they can use school organization, control and high standards as tools for increasing the efficiency of their work.

It is clear that certain schools are deficient when it comes to instilling correct habits and standards of social conduct and developing a critical attitude towards wrongdoing. There have been ostensible changes and we are constantly strengthening pedagogical and political work and taking a demanding attitude in the schools and in educational leadership positions to eliminate negative conduct, some of which is rooted in the problems which confront society and which schools must help solve. However there are still losses and destruction of social property, lack of discipline and punctuality, late return after leaves, inadequate personal relations among students and between students and teachers, lack of correct habits of social conduct and inadequate hygiene.

Schools must undoubtedly give priority to the work of improving the students' social conduct and manners. We seek conscientious discipline, that is, that good conduct and behavior reflect the principles and standards of communist morality.

Discipline is not one more aspect of educational work but rather the result of its efficiency. Thus we stress improved educational work; every teacher and professor in every school must fulfill his or her educational role

and the work of teachers' collectives must be systematic, uniform and coherent.

Political and ideological training of the students is closely linked to the study and knowledge of Marxism-Leninism, now being systematically taught in the different branches of our educational system. We still don't have enough professors nor enough of the basic texts.

Political and ideological education goes hand in hand with patriotic and military education. Courses on technical-military training, which are being tried out in some schools, will be taught in all senior high schools in the coming school year.

Physical education and school sports, along with art and cultural education, are key factors in the shaping of a communist personality.

Achievements registered in the field of physical education and school sports are well known. However, numerous problems and shortcomings exist: students who skip classes, misuse of class time, inadequate participation in sports activity and, in some schools, the inadequate use, care and upkeep of sports facilities. Another problem is the lack of sports materials, chiefly in elementary schools and special education. The Ministry of Education and the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation are presently involved in projects to promote mass participation and improve the quality of the work being done in this field.

Progress has been made in art and cultural education in the different branches of the educational system, especially in elementary schools. With a view to overcoming existing problems and shortcomings with regard to professors, curricula and materials, the Ministries of Education and Culture have taken a series of measures that are reflected in a work plan of the next five years. Such measures reinforce the work that must be done by the school to improve the level of cultural activity.

The combination of study and work, a basic principle of Cuban education which has a decisive influence on our children and young people, has been favorably commented on at the two Party Congresses. The need to improve upon its application in the different branches of education has been stressed.

In elementary schools we now have nearly 600 vegetable gardens and more than 800 productive plots in which more than 330 000 students are involved. The School Goes to the Countryside program still makes a notable contribution to the economy of the country, with large numbers of students at the intermediate level working on various crops. Problems and shortcomings which still exist in terms of organization and supply are being worked on by the various agencies involved, which are taking a more demanding attitude and striving to exert effective control.

The junior and senior high schools in the countryside supply the principal work force for certain citrus, tobacco, coffee and other harvests and the students' work has been satisfactory.

Absences and lack of punctuality, inadequate sanitary conditions and diet, nonfulfillment of norms, failure to clearly define tasks and shortages of materials are among the problems we are trying to solve.

The scientific-technical clubs, an effective means for vocational training, are being increasingly strengthened and now number more than 31 000. About 480 000 elementary and junior high school students participate in them, that is, a third of the students in those grades. As provided for in Decree 63 of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers, work is being done to increase participation in these clubs and raise their quality.

Inspections and reports by the Ministries of Education and Public Health indicate that hygienic and sanitary standards at schools have improved. Among the difficulties which still remain we should mention the serious problems related to the physical condition of some urban and rural centers, the lack of ventilation, illumination and water, inadequate preparation of food, malfunctioning and leaks in new schools caused mainly by faulty construction work and inadequate care and upkeep.

Together with the Ministry of Public Health we are working on a national student protection program for the 1981-83 period, which will be put into effect in the coming school year in coordination with the corresponding department of People's Power.

In some provinces there is a lack of school furniture. Efforts have been made to solve this problem by the start of the next school year.

In the last few years we have also had problems related to delays in the completion of schools and the search for and training of educational and service personnel — all of which affect the students.

The installation and use of laboratories and workshops, and the distribution, redistribution and use of textbooks are other fields with problems which we are working to solve.

We must mention the fact that the Ministry of Culture has made a great effort to have textbooks for the coming school year ready before June 30 so we can send them to the schools before classes start. This will solve a problem we have faced for years.

We should likewise mention the extraordinary work done by collectives of textbook authors. As a result of the increased need posed by the Improvement Plan, during the last few years more than 1000 new titles have been published, making a decisive influence in the development of current educational programs. The groups writing these materials are made up of representatives from the Academy of Sciences, institutions of higher learning, production and service institutions, teachers, professors and methodologists from the municipal, provincial and national levels, under the supervision of the Central Institute of Pedagogical Sciences.

One thing which has helped improve the quality of education is the stability of cadres, chiefly school principals. In order to cope with the sharp boom in intermediate education during the last ten years, we had to select more than 18 000 new leadership cadres. This gave rise to a lack of stability and technical cadres in the municipalities. In many cases methodologists and inspectors were sent to work at new institutions or those with insufficient leadership cadres, and thus had to neglect their previous responsibilities.

The Ministry of Education and the local organs of People's Power have worked to organize and develop the cadre pool and reserves, achieve better control, and undertake systematic evaluations and continuously upgrade personnel to achieve greater efficiency and better placement and promotion of teachers and administrative personnel.

The new system of promotions and graduated pay scale has constituted a step forward for educational workers in the recognition of their merits, while contributing to the stability of teachers, professors and other pedagogical cadres.

Our quantitative and qualitative achievements allow for constant and systematic increases in the quality of education and improvements in the work done by the school; indeed, they require us to struggle for them. Thus, we are continuing to develop the Improvement Plan in order to better the material and technical foundation

of education and intensify scientific and pedagogical activity.

Over the 1981-85 period enrollment in elementary school will continue to decline. Careful study will be given to the future development of the elementary school network, so that while not building schools with low enrollment we will be seeing to it that no child is without a school, no matter how remote the area where he or she lives. Surplus school capacity resulting from declining enrollment will be used to have more children attending two sessions daily, thus increasing the quality of teaching and education in general.

In order to further the overall training of students there will be an increase in physical education, labor studies and art education.

Junior high school enrollment has reached its peak and is expected to remain at its present level, or perhaps decline slightly, in the coming years. With the present installations, and those to be built in this five-year period, we will be able to keep pace and cope with future needs. The teachers we already have, plus those currently in training, will bring departments up to full strength.

We will continue transferring students, chiefly from the eastern provinces to other provinces, to see to it that they continue studying when they finish 6th grade and in order to involve the greatest possible number of students in the study-work program.

In the 1981-85 period some 848 000 students will finish 9th grade. Of these, 412 000 will continue studying in polytechnic schools or institutes and 300 000 in senior high schools; 136 000 will train for careers in education, public health and technical and professional fields. This enrollment structure fits in with existing capacity and the needs of the socioeconomic development of the country.

Senior high school education will continue developing. At least 11 senior high schools in the countryside will be finished in the 1981-85 period, and some junior highs will become senior highs, so that the majority of the students at this level will be participating in the study-work program.

The prevailing promotion and retention rates indicate that 226 000 young people will graduate from 12th grade. Some of these will go on to institutions of higher learning and some of those who don't will study to become intermediate technicians in schools for technical and professional training and in schools of other state agencies.

There are 230 000 students at present in technical and professional education and in the 1981-85 period 44 new polytechnic schools will be built with a capacity for 28 600 students. The number of graduates will come to 375 000 in this five-year period basically as a result of students who enroll with a 9th-grade education. This means the number of graduates will be 2.1 times greater than in the 1976-80 period. In order to improve the training of skilled workers and intermediate-level technicians we are working to better the material and technical foundation of the schools, finish construction work and install workshops and laboratories. These centers must be used efficiently and should be linked to industry.

The continuation of the studies started by the Central Planning Board and aimed at giving us detailed information about the need for skilled labor in the national economy is very important. Breakdowns both by region and by stage are necessary. Such information will make it possible for us to plan enrollment by careers and provinces appropriately, and make the necessary changes in school capacity.

There is a clear need to improve the training of elementary schoolteachers who received their training in systems existing prior to the present plan and need to be brought up to par with those now graduating from teacher training schools. There are more than 1000 teachers in two-year courses set up to cope with this problem, and in the future these studies will be an indispensable qualification. Teachers will also be able to obtain a university degree in elementary education. In the coming years teachers in intermediate education will be required to have a full university education.

In the field of adult education, following on the results obtained in the Battle for the 6th Grade, we will continue working along with the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions to ensure that most of those who have not already done so reach the 9th grade. Workers will have the opportunity of completing and improving their technical training in night courses and other special programs of technical and professional education.

It won't be easy to surpass many of the rates and qualitative levels reached in the last few years in terms of enrollment and number of graduates. However, in terms of qualitative improvement we have unlimited possibilities ahead of us.

Now more than ever before, we must take a more demanding attitude and be more efficient in our work. The struggle for quality is the main task of the Ministry of Education in a process that will always require the total mobilization of all forces, because every stage of development will pose greater requirements than the previous one.

Obviously, quality means increasing the scientific, pedagogical and political-ideological training of teaching staff and, in general, educational workers. That is, better work by all those in any way involved with the teaching and educational process. The focus of our work will be the drive for greater efficiency in all aspects of the system, both external and internal.

Efficiency in the internal aspects of the National Education System means cutting down on dropouts in all branches of education; seeing to it that the enrollment rate of young people over the age of 12 who are in school increases; stability and satisfactory flow of enrollment throughout the system; fulfillment of all norms which deal with optimum organization of education and teaching; permanent upgrading of leadership cadres; strengthening support work for the school done by the family, the community, agencies, social institutions and especially political and mass organizations, all of which are part of the school councils. There must be unwavering demands for the fulfillment of all educational objectives and the responsibilities which correspond to each and every person in this great task.

External efficiency has to do with turning out students who can continue their studies and become part of the production or service process with good skills and a full awareness of their responsibilities as workers and members of society; students with sound scientific training and ideological principles. That is, we must educate people whose knowledge, ability and attitude go hand in hand; people willing and able to serve their country wherever necessary, in line with their duty to it and the principles of proletarian internationalism.

The quality of education means better organization and teaching work, better educational work, more discipline, study and training.

Fidel has summed all this up as follows:

"In the coming years our efforts must focus on quality in all fields. Quality in the content of education and

teaching, quality in organization, quality in shaping personality and the awareness of students, quality in discipline and the fulfillment of duty for educational cadres, leaders, department chiefs, professors and all workers in education!"

Comrade deputies, we have presented a detailed report on the development of education, the achievements obtained, problems, shortcomings and the immediate outlook, and we also mentioned some of the measures which were taken to cope with the shortcomings and solve the problems.

Our Revolution allots huge sums of money to the development of education. There may be some material problems, which we will gradually solve, but the matters which we must solve right away and on which we are focusing our attention are subjective matters that depend on us and hamper the development of education. That is something we can solve and are duty bound to do so.

We realize that there is no room for concessions or tolerance in education. We strive to greatly increase the level and quality of education and teaching in all fields. The drive for a demanding attitude and efficiency is the core of our work.

In order to accomplish all this, we count on the wise leadership of the Party, the resolute efforts of the organs of People's Power, the firm and enthusiastic backing of

the Trade Union of Workers in Education and Science and the participation of youth and mass organizations.

Our teachers and students are aware of the fundamental tasks they face: production and defense. In education, production means greater quality, discipline and efficiency in work at school; defense means an alert and intransigent stand in the face of the threats, provocations and diversionary maneuvers of the enemy. It also means taking up arms if necessary.

In our advance we are inspired by our people's highest values; their traditions of struggle, unyielding stand in the face of the enemy; their fighting spirit, patriotism, dedication, internationalist spirit and sacrifice. These values are present in the teachers and they are based on the will to work tirelessly with Martí's concept that the best way to say is to do.

We are convinced that "education is the most powerful weapon available to mankind in order to create an ethic and a conscience, to create a sense of duty, organization and discipline, a sense of responsibility."

In all this noble effort, Fidel's teachings guide and inspire our revolutionary pedagogical development in its drive to obtain the supreme objective: the communist upbringing of the new generations.

LEFTIST PARTY HITS RULING PARTY FOR CRITICISM OF GRENADA

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 24 Jul 81 p 11

[Text]

THE ruling Freedom Party of Dominica has run into criticism at home for its recent attack on the policies of the Grenada Government, according to a report from the island.

The leftist Dominica Liberation Movement Alliance (DLMA) has reportedly accused the Freedom Party of attacking Grenada's government in — 'a clever attempt' — to divert citizens' attention from Dominica's "socio-economic crisis."

What moral authority does the Freedom Party have to question the enjoyment of human rights and freedoms in another country, when it has effectively conspired to stifle real opposition in Parliament? the DLMA was quoted as saying.

According to the report, the DLMA feels that instead of questioning the enjoyment of human rights in another country the ruling party would better use its time in formulating a strategy to cope with the socio-economic problems at home.

Dominica Freedom Party had said that it found the human rights situation in Grenada offensive and called for free and fair elections at the earliest possible time.

Soon after this criticism, which has echoed in an editorial of the Dominica 'New Chronicle' newspaper, Grenada's Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard came out with a strongly worded warning to those who would interfere in 'Grenada's business.'

CSO: 3025/188

CHARLES OUTLINES PLAN TO REVIVE AILING ECONOMY, EMPLOYMENT

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 24 Jul 81 p 9

[Article by Peter Richards]

[Text] ROSEAU, Dominica, Thursday, (CANA) — Prospects for reviving the ailing economy and cutting unemployment, were outlined here on Tuesday night by the ruling Dominica Freedom Party, on the eve of the start of its second year in power.

The party won a landslide victory at the polls on July 21, 1980, winning 17 of the 21 seats at stake and Tuesday night held a public meeting just outside Government Headquarters to bring the nation up to date on plans for the future.

Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, in a 35-minute presentation, said that her party was well on the way to bringing about a revival of the economy and providing jobs for the many unemployed people in the country.

Miss Charles said every effort was being made to ensure the survival of the main revenue earner, the banana industry, and called on every Dominican to play his part.

"It is time for all of us to realise how important bananas are and as a result we must make sure that we are able to do our part in making sure we supply good bananas for the market, so we can get the best possible price", she said.

She called on banana growers not to try to pass for export fruit that they themselves know is not good for shipment, because this causes the price of the bananas to go down.

Miss Charles defended her Government's decision to sign a \$37 million loan agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for economic assistance.

"If we had not gone into the agreement with the IMF we would have had to shut down the country, because there was no money to run it", she said.

"There was no month that we have recovered enough revenue, not one month we collected enough to pay our expenses... we would have had no money at all and therefore we had to find a way of keeping the country open", she said.

Her remarks about the IMF loan came on the eve of a meeting here yesterday between trade union officials and members of the private sector to discuss the loan conditions and their implications.

On Tuesday one trade union here expressed concern about an IMF condition that wage hikes be kept at 10 per cent called on Government to cancel the IMF deal and re-negotiate the entire package with easier terms.

But Miss Charles said: "There is nothing the IMF asked us to do that we did not know we had to do... if you want survival you have to take the steps that will make you survive... we could not have existed without it".

She said had the IMF not come to Dominica's assistance there would be no money available for paying public servants.

"No one can live without getting paid; no one can continue to exist and for this reason we decided we have to take the drastic steps and enter into an agreement with IMF", Miss Charles told the large crowd which braved heavy intermittent showers.

The Prime Minister said that on taking up office, she had

found on the statute books provision for the establishment of an Industrial Development Corporation to provide jobs for Dominicans, but it had not been set up.

She said Government would soon rename the agency the National Development Corporation, giving it wider powers, "and through them we hope to be able to get the employment during the course of the next 12 months that we want so badly for Dominica".

She said that the British Government was providing consultancy aid to NDC, and that two Dominicans would soon pursue studies under the United Nations Industrial Development Programme.

On Tuesday, Miss Charles signed an agreement with the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to undertake a study on the marketing of Dominica ornamental plants, such study she said would allow Dominica to identify markets for the plants, as well as to know "how much money we can get from it".

On future projects, Miss Charles said that she has been having discussions with a Trinidad and Tobago company on the possibility of marketing Dominican produce in Barbados, Antigua and Trinidad.

"This is a plan they are looking into for us... and they are going to make a company", she said, noting that Dominica would also be involved in the company.

Miss Charles also outlined Dominica's plans for going into the production of fresh water fish, which she said could bring in some revenue.

COARD THREATENS RETALIATION FOR MEDDLING IN GRENADA

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada, Monday, (CANA) — Grenada will take a firm line against anyone who meddles in its internal affairs, Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard has said.

"The moment you interfere in our business, it is a two-way street after that," he told Grenadian youths. "If you interfere in Grenada's business, after that it is open season and you get what you get."

Coard, who is also Finance Minister, was reacting to what the Government-owned Radio Free Grenada called "recent attacks on the Grenada revolution by various governments."

Coard did not pinpoint which governments had angered Grenada's left-leaning rulers, who came to power in a March 1979 revolution, toppling right-wing Prime Minister Eric Gairy.

But the latest volley came from Dominica's ruling Freedom Party which called for the "early" General Elections the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) here had

promised when it toppled the Gairy regime.

New Zealand too had earlier blasted Grenada, describing the Government as being unashamedly Marxist.

At yesterday's opening of a youth camp organised by the ruling New Jewel Movement (NJM), Coard said Grenada believed in the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states.

"Nobody can interfere in Grenada's affairs and expect that the PRG will not retaliate," he said.

From the early days of the revolution, the PRG had said it would not interfere with any other government, he told youths, who will be at camps scattered across the island with such named as "Steve Biko" (murdered black African freedom fighter), Walter Rodney (assassinated Guyanese opposition politician) and Che Guevara (Cuban revolutionary).

"Anybody who interferes in Grenada's business will have to feel the weight of the Grenada revolution," he said.

CSO: 3025/190

ASSOCIATION'S REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH BISHOP REJECTED

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 23 Jul 81 pp 1, 14

[Text] St. Geroges, Grenada, July 22 (CANA):

The Grenadian government today said it has rejected a request from the Caribbean Publishing and Broadcasting Association (CPBA) for a meeting with Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, to discuss alleged press freedom abuses here.

The CPBA, a regional grouping of media executives, last week said it wanted to meet Bishop to talk about the Grenada governments recent closure of a new independent newspaper, the GRENADIAN VOICE, and travel restrictions placed on journalist Alister Hughes.

The VOICE was closed down June 19 after its initial printing, with government accusing it of working with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) against Grenada. Hughes, who was linked with the paper, was subsequently prevented from leaving Grenada, on the grounds that his income tax record was being investigated.

In a statement today, Government here said no useful purpose would be served by a meeting between the Prime Minister and the CPBA, described as "an unholy alliance of regional media magnates.

Said the statement: "the Peoples Revolutionary Government of Grenada views the recent attack on our revolution by the Caribbean Publishers and Broadcasters Association, that unholy alliance of regional media magnates, as a predictable response from a corporate group opposed to a genuinely free people's mass media in the Caribbean.

"By claiming that closure of the illegal, GRENADIAN VOICE violates freedom of expression in our country it attacks the PRG for acting on behalf of the vast majority of our countrymen, who recognise the GRENADIAN VOICE for what it was-- another CIA attempt to undermine the Grenada revolution.

"The PRG has no intention of stopping the right of movement of Alister Hughes or any other Grenadian, as long as they abide by the law, pay their taxes and not work with the CIA or other destabilising agencies and forces.

"The GRENADIAN VOICE was not set up as a medium through which the working people, the youth, women, students, farmers and fishermen of our country could express themselves freely.

"It was established to disseminate the views and ideas of a minority of big businessmen, planter and reactionary lawyers with links to the CIA, not to the broad masses of Grenadians. Theirs is not the voice of the people. Theirs is the voice of unpatriotic elements opposed to peace and social progress and bent on giving full support to the CIA plan of turning back our people's revolution.

"The request by CPBA president Oliver Clarke, managing director of the infamous Jamaica DAILY GLEANER (which played a key role in the downfall (October 1980) of Michael Manley's government) to meet with Prime Minister Bishop "to discuss these issues with a view to possible solution" is arrogant, hypocritical, ironic and contemptible."

"No useful purpose can be served by such a meeting. It is the height of arrogance and hypocrisy for Oliver Clarke to use his GLEANER and his CPBA to write libellous editorials and to mount unwarranted attacks on the PRG and then call for a meeting. As far as the PRG is concerned the issues in this case have already been solved.

"What power has this CPBA arrogated to itself that it can so boldly interfere in Grenada's internal affairs? The people of the Caribbean have given them no such mandate. Any why have they remained silent when other Caribbean governments are imposing strict press censorship and victimising progressive journalists.

"It is indeed ironic, if not laughable, that after calling on the Inter-American Human Rights Commission to investigate the state of human rights in Grenada and on Caribbean governments to isolate Grenada by severing relations, Clarke and his cohorts now seek an audience with Prime Minister Bishop.

"The people of the Caribbean should be informed that Oliver Clarke is not only president of the CPBA, but also a vice president of the Inter-American ... s Association, a conglomeration of right-wing, anti-democratic newspapers with close ties to the CIA.

"Let it also be known that this same association worked assiduously to overthrow the democratically-elected Chilean government of Salvador Allende and put in its place the brutal, fascist Pinochet dictatorship, which today consistently violates all the human rights that the Chilean people should enjoy."

CSO: 3025/190

BRIEFS

JOURNALIST'S DEPORTATION--St. Georges--(Grenada Press)--The Media Workers Association of Free Grenada (MWAFC), which represents the vast majority of newspaper, radio and television workers on the island, has strongly condemned the 'unwarranted and unjustified deportation' from St. Vincent last week of journalist, Earl Bousquet, a member of the association. On Wednesday, July 22, Bousquet travelled to St. Vincent from Saint Lucia, on an assignment to cover the St. Vincent budget debate which was taking place that day, for the FREE WEST INDIAN newspaper, where he is employed. But he was told by the St. Vincent airport authorities that he could not enter the country. No valid reasons were given, and despite his peaceful protest, he was told that he would be deported on the next plane to Saint Lucia. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 29 Jul 81 p 5]

CSO: 3025/194

OPPOSITION PRESS GETS LIMITED NEWSPRINT FROM GOVERNMENT

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 22 Jul 81 p 5

[Text] Georgetown, Tues., (Cana):

The Opposition-linked MIRROR newspaper, starved for newsprint for nearly two years now, is receiving two rolls per week from the State-owned Guyana National Newspapers Limited.

MIRROR said it was "a partial victory" for the campaign against what it claimed was a government squeeze on newsprint supplies.

The government had previously explained that supplies of newsprint were severely limited because of foreign exchange difficulties.

MIRROR said it is being charged \$13,000 per short ton or \$6.50 per pound, compared with what it said had been \$2,800 per short ton or \$1.40 pound it paid to the government company two years ago.

It added that the two rolls per week would be just sufficient to continue its four-page edition weekly, which was a far cry from the evening edition and expanded Sunday edition it published two years ago when it received newsprint.

Meanwhile, another private newspaper, the weekly CATHOLIC STANDARD is also likely to receive printing material from a government agency.

This was told to Cana by a government spokesman who said that the STANDARD approached the agency and received a positive response a few weeks ago.

This was however not reported in the STANDARD edition yesterday, when it said that it continued to be printed on leftovers of newsprint sold by the pound by the government printery on a week by week basis.

The STANDARD reported also that the trade ministry had turned down its application for a licence to import 600 reams of bond paper, which was being made available as a gift by the Pope's representative in the Caribbean, and no explanation was given.

It claimed that there was a continuing policy to muzzle the Press in Guyana, but the government spokesman said that in light of the positive response "which the STANDARD received, and the arrangements for MIRROR to secure newsprint,--it cannot be argued that the government is seeking to have opposition voices silenced in Guyana."

CSO: 3025/191

PACT WITH UNION TO COST \$23 MILLION IN PUBLIC SECTOR

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 28 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] The interim agreement reached between the Government and the Guyana Trades Union Congress will cost at least another \$23 million in the Public Sector and Public Service alone.

This estimate does not include the additional money it would cost Guymine and Guysuco and certain identified skill categories mentioned in the pay relief agreement.

The amount is made up of \$10 million for the Guystac group of companies and corporations and the rest for the Public Service, according to initial calculations worked out yesterday.

A top Guystac spokesman and a Ministry of Finance official gave the figures based on the terms of the agreement announced over the week-end.

It was pointed out, however, that guidelines for the application of the agreement are expected to be issued by the Ministry of Economic Planning and Finance before authorisation for the payout is given.

Depending on how soon the guidelines are issued, the payout could begin in the Guystac group in the latter part of next month, the Public Sector spokesman said.

The Public Service spokesman who calculated the figure for that category of workers based on the last approved wages bill of \$194 million for 1981, was not in a position to say how soon the payment could be made.

Official notification of the agreement is to be sent to Ministries and Corporations immediately pending the issuing of the guidelines.

The release on the agreement said seven per cent of the basic pay rate as at December 31, 1980, effective January 1, 1981 to June 30, 1981 would be paid to Public Service and Public Sector employees.

But Guymine and Guysuco employees, as well as other identified skill categories within the traditional Public Service will be paid 10 per cent increase on the basic rate for the same period.

It was also agreed that workers within the Public Service and Public Sector will receive 10 per cent increase on their basic pay rate at December 31, 1980, effective July 1, 1981 while Guysuco, Guymine and the other identified skill categories within the traditional Public Service will be paid 12 1/2 per cent effective from July 1, 1981 on the basic pay rate at December 31, 1980.

Negotiations on the final wages package are to resume at a mutually agreed time.

CSO: 3025/191

BRIEFS

COPRA INCOME RISE--Copra producers in Guyana will now get 55 cents per pound for their produce. This means an increase of 12.5 cents per pound for first grade copra. The new price was announced by President Forbes Burnham to farmers in the Essequibo Coast and Pomeroun during a face the community meeting at Charity yesterday. Producers will receive 55 cents per pound for A Grade copra, 51 cents for second grade and 40 cents per pound for third grade copra. The previous price for first grade copra had been 42.5 cents per pound for a number of years. Despite a petition by farmers for higher prices for cassava, President Burnham refused to up the price of 11 cents per pound, because, he said, there was not sufficient quantity of cassava produced to justify the inflationary effect if a higher price was introduced. The President told the farmers that while the Government believed that farmers should get a reasonable price for their produce, the reasonable price had to be a question of bargaining and discussions between the two parties. [Excerpt] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 21 Jul 81 p 1]

GOLD, DIAMOND PRODUCTION--The country's gold production for the first six months of 1981 has reached a value of \$8,249,744.73, while production for the first quarter was valued at \$4,129,962.20. Figures for April, May and June this year showed a production value of \$4,119,782.53 which almost doubles the corresponding period last year. Second quarter production last year totalled \$2,194,226.67. The production of gold for the second quarter of 1981 showed an increase of 58,973 kilograms over the production for the same period last year. During this period, production in the Mazaruni mining district reached 69,112 kilograms compared with 33,469 last year. And figures for diamond production for the first six months this year totalled about 4,245 metric carats, representing a value of \$620,100. This output reflects an increase of 1,449 metric carats valuing \$217,235. The output of diamonds for the second quarter of this year reached a total value of \$324,000 for 2,218 metric carats. For the month of June, diamond production was about 686 metric carats with an approximate value of \$100,200. [Excerpts] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 23 Jul 81 p 20]

TECHNOLOGY SURVEY--More than sixty local manufacturing and engineering firms are involved in a countrywide survey aimed at assessing local engineering capability. The survey which is being conducted by the Technology Transfer [Policy] Unit [TTU] is to lay emphasis on the generation of production technology--tools, spare parts and components. According to TTU's Scientific Officer, the survey--covering the public, private and operative sectors--is an attempt to quantify the degree of foreign dependencies of our engineering services and to assess the

potential of reducing this dependence through the utilisation of local skills and raw materials.

Manufacturers are to indicate why indigenous materials are not utilised to a greater extent in cases where there is the potential to do so. In addition the survey is expected to help in the documentation of the relationships existing between local organisations and foreign agencies in terms of patent, licensing, designing, "turnkeys" and related agencies. It is also to be accompanied by an examination of the services available for engineering firms and consultancies. The Technology Transfer (Policy) Unit sees the survey as part of the total process of continuous technology assessment--a feature which is of importance if Third World economies are to be kept buoyant through export promotion and import substitution. (GNA)

CSO: 3025/191

SHEARER ANSWERS MANLEY QUERIES ON TIES WITH CHILE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 30 Jul 81 p 19

[Text] The Government of Jamaica is not considering accrediting any representative to the present government of Chile, nor accepting the accreditation of any representative from the present government of Chile to Jamaica. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer stated this in the House of Representatives Tuesday in response to questions tabled by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Michael Manley.

The question and answers follows:

Q: Is the Minister of Foreign Affairs aware that following the coup d'etat in an and subsequent elimination of the democratic leadership of Chile, workers' rights in particular and human rights in general are suppressed by the Government of Chile?

Reply: Yes Sir. It is so reported.

Q: Is the Minister of Foreign Affairs aware that a meeting recently took place between the Minister of Youth and Community Development and a representative of the Chilean Government?

Reply: No Sir, I am aware that on June 5, 1981, Mr. Gustavo Benko, President of the Chilean Olympic Committee paid a courtesy call on the Minister of Youth and Community Development. Mr. Benko was not received in the capacity of a representative of the Chilean Government.

Q: Will the Minister of Foreign Affairs state the policy of the Government towards accepting technical, economic or cultural assistance from the Government of Chile?

Reply: It is the policy of the Government not to accept bilateral technical, economic or cultural assistance from the present Government of Chile.

Q: Will the Minister of Foreign Affairs state whether the Government intends to accredit any diplomatic or other representative to the Government of Chile or whether it intends to accept any diplomatic or other representative of the Government of Chile to the Government of Jamaica?

Reply: The Government is not considering accrediting any representative from the present Govern-

ment of Chile nor accepting the accreditation of any representative from the present Government of Chile to the Government of Jamaica.

Q: Will the Minister of Foreign Affairs give the House the assurance that there will be no accreditation of representatives between Jamaica and Chile at this time and that Jamaica will accept no aid from that country at this time?

Reply: These assurances were explicitly given to the House on June 9 when I spoke in the Budget Debate.

Mr. Manley asked a supplementary question as to whether the Minister accepted the importance of the distinction between common membership in organisations such as the OAS and the U.N. and the situation where a government receives bilateral aid from a particular country if the Minister admitted and recognised the importance of that distinction.

The Minister said that the government acknowledged the difference between membership in an international organization and bilateral relations.

SHARP DROP IN EXPORTS; 1981 LOOMS AS WORST YEAR EVER

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 22 Jul 81 pp 1, 17

[Text]

Grave concern at a drop in exports of 7.8 per cent in the first five months of 1981 was expressed yesterday by the Jamaica Exporters' Association.

Commenting on the decline, Mr. Prakash Vaswani, JEA president, predicted that exports for 1981 will likely drop by at least five per cent, the first decline Jamaica's exports have shown since 1976.

"This year is shaping up as the worst for export performance we have experienced since early in the 70s", Mr. Vaswani said. "Even in 1980, one of the worst years for exports, we were able to record an increase of more than 20 per cent. We have maintained that sort of performance since 1976. The association is gravely concerned by the trend and feels it is a reflection of policies being implemented which are acting as disincentives to increased export performance.

"At a time when it is claimed that priorities have been given to exports, the Jamaica Export Credit Insurance Corporation has increased interest rates charged to exporters from 6 per cent to 14 per cent in a mere two months. We have been advised that an export tax of \$10 per entry will be charged arbitrarily from August 1, 1981, on all shipments to the Caricom market. We fail to understand how exports can be expected to increase when they are being made subject to special taxation," Mr. Vaswani said.

Mr. Vaswani said it would be wise for Government to re-examine its policies with regard to exports. "Despite repeated assurances that the need for measures to encourage exports is recognized, we note that disincentives to performance have not been removed although they have been clearly identified in the National Export Plan. It is being stated repeatedly that exporters are receiving special consideration and priorities, but this is not in fact the case.

"Exporters are facing the same old problems of licence difficulties and inability to get needed foreign exchange for local production. We note with considerable interest the statement by the Hon. Douglas Vaz, Minister of Industry and Commerce, that money and export licences are available for the purchase of raw material. We are very happy about this development and are calling on all of our members to submit licences to the Trade Administrator with copies of their applications to the Association," Mr. Vaswani said.

"We know that money now offered under the Export Development Fund is being made available to exporters, but it should be recognized that the majority of exporters also require raw materials for the local production without which they are unable to compete competitively in the export market. The

[Editor's Note: Kingston's THE DAILY GLEANER of 31 July 1981, on pages 1 and 27, carries a statement issued the previous day by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Hugh Shearer on the question of Jamaica's foreign exports. In its introduction to the lengthy statement, the paper says that Shearer "described as misleading a statement by the president of the Jamaica Exporters Association, Mr. Prakash Vaswani, in which he had claimed a drop of 7.8 percent in exports in the first five months of this year. A statement issued by Mr. Shearer yesterday said that the true position was that there had been an increase in total exports to all destinations, though there was a decline in exports to CARICOM."]

CSO: 3025/192

VAZ: MANUFACTURERS IN \$148 MILLION EXPANSION PROGRAM

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 31 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

EXPANSION INVESTMENTS
TOTALLING MORE THAN
\$148 MILLION, are being undertaken by a number of local manufacturing companies the Minister of Industry and Commerce, the Hon. Douglas Vaz, said in an address to the Jamaica/Mexico Businessmen's Committee on Monday. These were significant development, involving established local investors, he emphasised.

He said among these new investments in expansion were: West Indies Glass, \$30 Million; Thermo-Plastics Limited, \$2 million; Jamaica Broilers, \$9.05 million; West Indies Synthetics, \$5.2 million; Jamaica Transformer Limited, \$1 million; CM Associates and Jamaica Craft Prints \$1.2 million, Carib Cement Company, \$90 million; Desones and Geddes Limited, \$4 million; Henkel Chemicals, \$1 million; Jamaica Gypsum and Quarries, and Paul Blum and Company of Buffalo, USA, \$1 million; Master Blend Feeds, \$4 mil-

lion; J. Wray and Nephew Limited, \$4 million; National Processors, \$1.5 million.

Mr. Vaz paid tribute to the Jamaican investors, who he said, had been making significant efforts to either get involve in new production, or to expand existing facilities during the past eight months.

He said that there had been significant activity related to new investments from abroad, and he told the Mexican businessmen that while they were being invited to invest here, he was sure that they also had an interest in the extent to which local business was participating in the Government's economic restoration plan.

The Minister said there had been re-starts in many businesses, and whereas six months ago the Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation had several empty factories, all were now back in production and a major building programme was in progress, to accommodate new investors.

Mr. Vaz said that in the construction industry, the key element in the restoration of the economy, many projects which had been shelved were now re-activated, new projects has started, and many were now being designed, both in the Private and in the Public sectors.

CSO: 3025/192

SEAGA ANNOUNCES \$45 MILLION AID PLAN FOR FARMERS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Aug 81 p 1

[Text]

A MAJOR LOAN PROGRAMME through which \$45-million of new credit is to be made available was announced yesterday by Prime Minister Edward Seaga as the Government's Independence Day 'presentation' to the small farmers of Jamaica.

Mr. Seaga made the announcement as he addressed the mammoth crowd at the final day of the 1981 Denbigh Show. He said the loan was now in the process of being negotiated and would be "somewhat different" from earlier loan programmes to farmers.

Mr. Seaga told his audience, which included large and small farmers, that the loan would be made available to farmers having holdings of between 2 and 10 acres, and would come on stream "somewhere towards the end of this year or in the beginning of next year". The crops to be planted would be based on a strict system of zoning, which would be laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture, and a map showing crop production zones was being drawn up.

Before he made the announcement, the Prime Minister said he had pleasure "in telling you that the Agricultural Development Bank is now established". It would, he said, deal with such funds as remain under the Self-Supporting Small Farmers' Scheme, which had been going on for many years and was now drawing to a close.

Partly because the Government was aware that that scheme was 'drawing to a close' it took steps to negotiate the new loan of \$45 million for the small-farm agricultural sector, Mr. Seaga said.

"This is going to provide a tremendous injection of new credit into the system — new loans for you to be able

to borrow, so that you can continue to produce and to increase production", he said.

Earlier, he recalled that only recently a sum of \$6 million had been provided in a revolving loan to finance crop lien to farmers.

But as he announced the \$45 million of new credit, Mr. Seaga issued a note of warning: farmers would have to understand that the loan must be properly serviced and repaid.

"There is no future for you or for the country if when farmers borrow money they don't repay it. If they don't repay it, it means that the institution from which we have borrowed the money will say to us, 'since you cannot get repayment, we cannot lend you anything more.'

And the only thing that you will get away with is the single time that you shot the Government or the single time that the Government finds itself in a position that it cannot honour its own obligations."

Mr. Seaga noted that there was a sum of \$41 million of outstanding debt owing by farmers; and that the Jamaica Development Bank which was set up to finance Agriculture had become a bankrupt organisation. "Had that money been collected, it would be available now to help another set or even the same farmers again: but it is not."

He said the \$45 million of new credit would not become available at one time in one year, and when it became available, "if the debts are not properly serviced, then I can tell you it is the last money that Jamaica will get for agricultural support to the small farming sector."

Farmers should be reminded, he said, that the small farming sector was

heavily dependent on Government to find money to lend it, because, unlike the bigger farmers who could go to the commercial banks, they could not obtain loans from that source.

So far as the provision on crop zoning was concerned, the Prime Minister said the money would not be made avail-

able to farmers to "plant what they want". Crops would be determined by a system of crop-zoning "so that farmers would be assisted to plant the right crops in the right soil at the right time." If other farmers wished to plant other crops, they could do so, but not with Government financial assistance, he emphasized.

CSO: 3025/192

BRIEFS

BAUXITE EARNINGS--Government revenue from the bauxite-alumina companies amounted to U.S.\$205.85 million in 1980--as against U.S.\$194 million in 1979. The bauxite production levy yielded almost U.S.\$202.6 million payable to the Capital Development Fund against which income tax of U.S.\$41.6 million (payable to the Consolidated Fund) was offset. Royalty was U.S.\$3.26 million. A release from the Jamaica Bauxite Institute further said: "An average price of U.S.\$75.18 cents per pound for aluminum ingot was realised last year by the four major North American aluminum companies will bauxite-alumina operations in Jamaica--Alcan, Alcoa, Kaiser and Reynolds. [as published] "On the basis of the average realised price, a levy of U.S.\$20.75 per long ton of bauxite was the yield to the Jamaican government. This figure was fractionally more than U.S.\$20.54 which had been forecast by the Jamaica Bauxite Institute. As a consequence of the slight increase of actual over-projected price as well as 1980's increased bauxite production, provisional levy payments for the year fell short of what was due. With the calculations now complete, additional payments by the companies are due to the government to close last year's books. Based on JBI's recommendation, the gazetted ingot price on which the levy is being calculated this year is US 78 cents per pound. In the first quarter of this year, the actual average price realised by the four majors was US 76.5 cents notwithstanding listings on the aluminum merchant market as low as U.S.60 cents a pound." [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Jul 81 p 1]

WEST GERMAN LOAN--Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga, on Friday signed a general commodity aid agreement for \$7,131,250 (10 million deutsche marks) with the Federal Republic of Germany, to provide foreign exchange to pay for Jamaican imports from West Germany. Signing for the West German Government, at the Jamaica House ceremony, was Dr. Karl Leuteritz, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany. The terms and conditions of the loan stipulate that only West German goods and services are to be purchased. The items include, industrial raw materials, industrial equipment and agricultural machinery, spare parts and accessories of all kinds, chemical products and advisory services. The loan carries an interest rate of 4.5 per cent per annum. The principal is repayable in 30 equal semi-annual instalments, the first of which is due on December 31, 1986, and the last on December 31, 2001. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Aug 81 p 1]

PAPER WARNS AGAINST IMPERIALIST PLOT IN AREA

PA071920 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 3 Aug 81 pp 1, 14

[Editorial: "Aggression on the Move, and Patriotic Unity"]

[Text] The U.S. Senate's sudden ratification of the treaty that wickedly seeks to distribute chunks of our sovereignty as if that were some sort of expansionist "pinata," the "unexpected" accident that put an end to Omar Torrijos' life, its antecedent in Ecuador, the climate created by fictitious attacks by Nicaragua and real provocations by Honduras, and the experiment apparently underway in Grenada, leave us no doubt that efforts are being made to lay a cordon around revolutionary Nicaragua.

While the hypocritical masks of the Afghanistan affair fall off in Gambia and imperialism announces in plain language its increasing intervention in El Salvador, efforts are being made to hem in, suffocate, attack and cut off Nicaragua because it has committed what the most reactionary clique in the north and its native figureheads here regard as a terrible crime: not bowing to its dictates and not allowing our destiny, our resources and our culture to remain tied down to the empire.

Our people, who each day become more aware of the freedom achieved, must promote patriotic unity with great vigor in order to defend that freedom.

And those who still hesitate or feel confused, must know that the moment is nearing when they will have to make a clear decision on behalf of their class and their fatherland.

Let nobody be deceived by the siren songs of local reactionaries. Counter-revolution will never have forces of its own. It depends on whatever the Honduran Army or imperialist intervention can do for it.

They dream about the only army that it is feasible for them to reconstruct: the genocidal Somozist guard.

It would be good if those hesitant and confused elements realized that the desire for revenge by those who have been displaced and are protected by that criminal guard will know no limit in its rage against the people. They are already saying in their private parties that "they will teach those mobs, that rabble, what their correct place is."

Pinochet will be nothing but a novice when it comes to the repression that they mistakenly think they will unleash here.

They dream of venting the anger that now swallows in silence against unions, popular organizations and anything that smacks of Sandinism.

They live with the hope of seeing stadiums full of imprisoned people who restrict all popular demands, the return of houses and lands to their "former owners" and the reestablishment of their lifeline to the north, through which they would betray the fatherland drop by drop.

The conspiracy is already underway. Imperialism, now being run by a team of psychopaths, is removing "the underbrush" in order to launch its final offensive in Nicaragua.

This is no time to rest, sleep or leave a single crack open to the enemy. As General Torrijos said: dead first, but never on our knees.

CSO: 3010/1691

BRIEFS

BULGARIAN CONTRIBUTION--The Recursos Maritimos Company, which processes fishmeal, will soon be operating again. The Bulgarian Government has contributed \$225,000 for its reactivation. Another \$25,000 has been supplied by the revolutionary government. The processing company, located in the port of Sandino, will produce 6 tons of fishmeal a day. [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 31 Jul 81 PA]

CSO: 3010/1691

BRIEFS

COPPER MINE PROJECT--The general cabinet meeting held yesterday headed by President Aristides Royo discussed the detailed report presented by Rodrigo Gonzalez, director general of the Cerro Colorado Mining Development Corporation (CODEMIN). The 5-hour meeting was called by President Royo so that top government officials could get first hand knowledge of the multimillion dollar mining project in order to adopt a decision on this important project. Gonzalez said the mine was one of the richest copper deposits in the world. In tonnage it would be second only to the one in Chile. Experts have established that the mine has 1.4 billion tons of copper, which gives it an approximate life span of 50 years. He said the cost of exploitation of the mine would be one of the lowest in the world, in its class. Gonzalez said that the government will invest \$550 million during the construction period estimated at 4 years. The Rio Tinto Zinc Company will invest \$500 million. This will mean a boost of \$1,500 million [figures as published] for national economy in local purchases, salaries and other services. At the end of Gonzalez' report President Royo opened up a question and answer session. President Royo closed the meeting saying that there will be two more meetings in order to be able to adopt a correct decision on this important project. Vice President Ricardo De La Espriella and members of the National Legislative Council also attended the meeting. [Excerpts] [PA111739 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 11 Aug 81 [no page number given]

CSO: 3010/1691

GOVERNMENT DENOUNCES OPPOSITION 'PROPAGANDA' PIECE

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 18 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] The PAM/NRP Government has denounced the Opposition Labour Party for spreading what must be one of their most dirty, misleading and mischievous pieces of propaganda.

A front-page article in Wednesday's issue of THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN bears the caption "Government makes secret payment of \$1 1/2 million to Estate Owners."

The article refers to a statement by Labour's main propagandist, Fitzroy Bryant, which was allegedly made by him at a public meeting this week.

In Bryant's accustomed style, this "revelation" is neither substantial nor factual. It is calculated to mislead, and is notable only for the nastiness of the insinuations it contains.

In December 1975, the then Government in which Bryant was a prominent member, was completing its "rescue operation" of the sugar industry. This programme was carried out with a ruthlessness characterized by the infamous one-square mile state of emergency at West Farm.

It was Labour who came to an agreement with the "sugar barons" referred to by Bryant, regarding payment for the tractors, Broussard loaders, Land Rovers, Carts, Trailers, and implements taken over by NACO from 21 Estates around the island before 1975.

Labour made a large lump-sum payment to the Estate Owners, leaving a balance due of \$600,517.91. They had also made several payments, on the same debt, to individual Estate Owners whose land compensation claims had been settled.

After December 1975 Labour stopped making their agreed payments on this large, UNDISPUTED debt, which THEY themselves had contracted.

Meanwhile, interest at the rate of 6% per annum was accumulating on the debt, which worked out to a sky-rocketing \$40,000.00-\$50,000.00 every year.

By May 1980, the interest alone had galloped to a staggering \$227,219.39, nearly one-quarter million dollars. In order to SAVE the Government and people of this country the further burdens being brought about by not paying this debt, entered

into by Labour, Government settled the outstanding claim on the NACO equipment specified.

Bryant was in Labour's Cabinet. He was party to all Labour's agreements and payments on this outstanding debts for NACO machinery. But this is Bryant's abhorrent technique. Anything potentially embarrassing for Labour, like cleaning up this debt MESS, is rushed into print by Bryant with a warped distorted and false slant.

But this particular rumour, this half-truth is even worse than usual. Because this time Bryant undoubtedly knew the truth. There was no secret payment, because the debt was a Labour Government debt. There was no \$1 1/2 million paid, the amount was \$827,700. There was no spending of Government money which is being denied to "more worthy" causes. On the contrary, this was cutting short an unnecessary waste of money which Labour was apparently completely insensitive to.

The Labour Party should be ashamed. If they have nothing sensible to say against Government, they should HUSH!

CSO: 3025/189

1981-82 BUDGET PROVIDES WAGE HIKES FOR CIVIL SERVANTS

Cato Presentation

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 24 Jul 81 p 5

[Text]

The St. Vincent government has presented a 127.88 million-dollar budget in parliament including provision for a pay increase for public servants, spread over three years.

However, according to reports, the proposed measures drew criticism from the political opposition from the very day of the budget presentation, Tuesday.

The 1981-1982 budget, which is 25 million dollars bigger than last year's reportedly includes increases of 50 and 25 per cent in two areas of taxation.

Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Milton Cato, is reported to have assured Vincentians in his budget speech that the

measures being proposed were in their best interest.

And in his traditional 'Throne Speech,' Governor General Sydney Gun-Munro is reported to have outlined some areas in which the government would be seeking to bring added benefits to Vincentians.

He was quoted as saying that, through the country's Agricultural Development Corporation, government would continue its land reform policy and its tourism promotion through the development of "physical and cultural attractions" and place increased emphasis on training.

According to the report, Sir Sydney assured Vincentians that government was also conscious of the need to increase secondary school

places as well as the need for better housing.

The start of debate on the budget Tuesday night brought early criticism of the proposed measures. Opposition leader Randolph Russell is quoted as saying that the salary increase of roughly 40 per cent over three years for public servants did not "say much."

According to the report, Russell feels that the pay increase will be going back in taxes, which have gone up 50 and 25 per cent for liquor and vehicular licences respectively.

Russell reportedly suggested that the government should have abolished pensions for politicians. - (GNA).

Opposition Criticism

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 24 Jul 81 p 3

[Text]

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent, Thursday, (CANA) — St. Vincent's Opposition Leader, Randolph Russell, Tuesday night strongly condemned the new tax measures introduced by Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Milton Cato, in the 1981-82 Budget proposals presented in Parliament on Tuesday.

As debate on the estimates continued late into the night, the former Health Minister in the Cato Administration said that an announced pay raise of 57 per cent for public servants did not "say much because most of the money will be going back in tax."

The Opposition leader said that the new tax measures —

higher rates for liquor and vehicle licences — would undoubtedly chase away potential investors from the island.

He called for the construction of an international airport to cope with the influx of visitors, noting that far too often, people had to overnight at Grantley Adams International Airport in Barbados because they could not pay hotel fees.

Government also came under severe attack for what Mr. Russell deemed "the suppression of news on the local radio."

"People have to listen to Radio Antilles in Montserrat and CBC Radio (Barbados) to know what's going on in their country," he declared.

The former government minister called on the government to provide better housing and schools, among a host of other things for all its people.

He said that pension for politicians should be abolished and added that only if they had given over 25 years

parliamentary service should they be allowed to a pension.

He stated that veteran politicians like former Chief Minister Ebenezer Joshua and Levi Latham should be among those entitled to receive pension.

CSO: 3025/190

CONTROVERSIAL CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LAW DROPPED

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 22 Jul 81 p 1

[Text]

— The Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL) yesterday said the St. Vincent Government had dropped plans for controversial changes in the island's industrial relations legislation.

The CCL's secretary-treasurer, Burns Bonadie told reporters St. Vincent's Prime Minister, Milton Cato, has assured the Barbados-based Labour Body that the plans had been abandoned.

He was commenting on discussions on Monday with the Vincentian leader. They came after trade unionists had arrived in Barbados from St. Vincent seeking CCL aid in stopping the Cato administration from going ahead with the plans for amending the laws.

The Essential Services (amendment) Bill was one of two controversial ones introduced in the St. Vincent Parliament last May. It would have outlawed industrial action in key public sector services.

Bonadie said Mr. Cato had told him the Bill had died "a natural death" when Parliament was prorogued.

"He gave us the assurance that government will not

reintroduce that amendment in the next session of Parliament," Mr. Bonadie said.

It was unclear what the fate of the other Bill — which prescribes stiff penalties for breaches of the public order would be.

During the last session of Parliament opposition politicians and trade unions demanded the withdrawal of the Bills.

Government decided to send the Public Order and Public Safety Bill to a broad-based select committee for an appraisal. It also decided to drop a clause in the Essential Services (amendment) Bill which would have given it the power to treat any public service threatened by industrial action as an essential one.

Mr. Bonadie said the CCL was against the Essential Services Bill largely because "they were taking the right to strike away from the trade unions."

He added: "They were also making provision to delegate the (labour) ministers authority (in handling industrial action) to a permanent secretary." (CANA).

BRIEFS

NETHERLANDS ENVOY--Ambassador Maduro of the Royal Netherlands presented credentials, entrusted to him by Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands to the Governor General, Sir Sydney Gun-Munro on Tuesday morning. In his speech the Ambassador, who was born and raised in Curacao an island in the Dutch Antilles, said that the Netherlands has had close ties with the Caribbean area for centuries. Mr. Maduro said that historical ties have changed and have developed into a relationship which hopefully will be beneficial to both his country and this region. He noted further that the nature of interests will continue to change but that proof of the concern of the Netherlands for the well-being of the people in the Caribbean can be found in its role--in the United Nations and other international forums--in the formation of a new international economic order, or the efforts to reorient the relationship between industrialised [as published] [Text] [Castries THE VINCENTIAN in English 17 Jul 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025/194

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